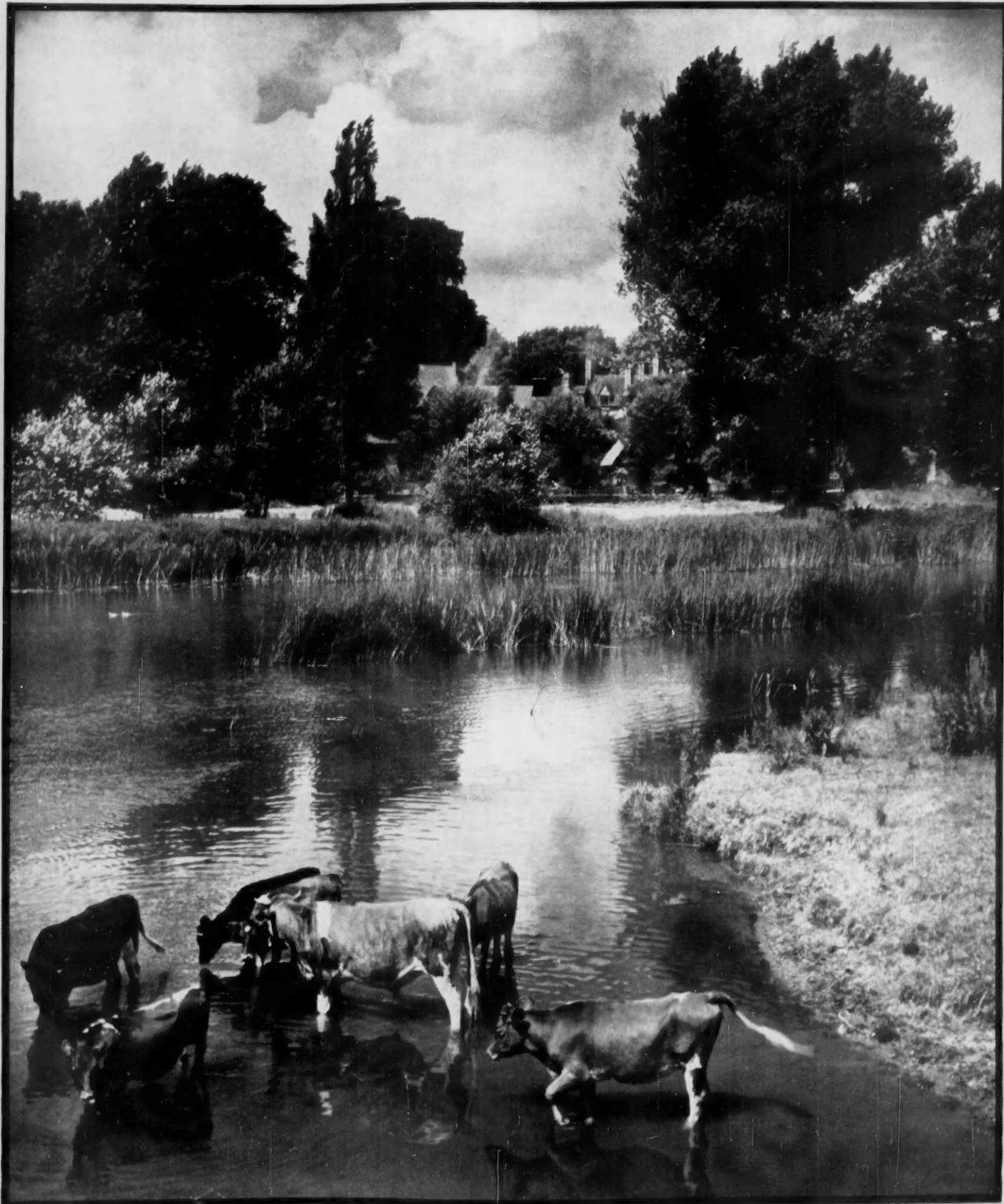


Country Life—July 19, 1956

A MASTERPIECE OF PRESERVATION COUNTRY LIFE

On Sale Thursday
JULY 19, 1956

TWO SHILLINGS



THE THAMES AT CLIFTON HAMPDEN, OXFORDSHIRE

G. F. Allen



PASSING CLOUDS

20 for 4s. 6d.
100 for 22s. 6d.

Made by W. D. & H. O. Wills

... not a cigarette you get offered in everybody's house, by any means; but

how gratifying when you are! For *Passing Clouds*, ever since 1874, have been
made for people who prefer a Virginian-flavoured cigarette but who demand

of it distinction, an oval shape, and—of course—superb quality.

W.D. & H.O. WILLS

COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. CXX No. 3105

JULY 19, 1956

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

WILLIAM AND MARY HOUSE IN WILTSHIRE VILLAGE

Malmesbury 4½ miles. Chippenham 6 miles. Bath 16 miles. Bristol 20 miles.



THE CHESTNUTS, UPPER SEAGRY
The beautiful Period House, situated in the centre of the village, has just been modernised and redecorated at great expense.
3 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms and dressing room and 2 bathrooms. Including a master suite.
2 attic rooms. Oil-fired central heating and hot water systems. Main electric light and power. Main water, new septic tank drainage. New garage for 4 cars. Walled pleasure garden. Kitchen garden.

ABOUT 1½ ACRES

For Sale Freehold by Auction at the Angel Hotel, Chippenham, on Friday, September 14, at 2.30 p.m.



Auctioneers: Messrs. BERRY, POWELL & SHACKELL, 46, Market Place, Chippenham (Tel. 2004 and 2174), and Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY
By direction of Lt.-Col. Sir JOHN MARLING, Bart., O.B.E.

GLoucestershire. Bath 11 Miles

An Historic Residential T.T. and Attested Dairy and Mixed Farm.
DEAN AND CHAPTER FARM, CODRINGTON, CHIPPING SODBURY



The beautiful 15th-century HOUSE, built of Cotswold stone, has been modernised and restored at considerable cost.

3 reception rooms, 7-8 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Main water. Private electricity. (Main supply available shortly).

FINE RANGE OF BUILDINGS, including new cowhouse, milking parlour and concreted yards.

4 GOOD COTTAGES

NEARLY 200 ACRES

Substantial capital expenditure tax claims.



FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY or by Auction at an early date as a whole on in 2 Lots.
Solicitors: Messrs. LAWRENCE GRAHAM & CO., 6, New Square, Lincoln's Inn, W.C.2. Auctioneers: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY.

SOUTH WARWICKSHIRE. LEAMINGTON SPA 2½ MILES

MALLORY COURT

Extremely well-appointed residence upon which many thousands of pounds have been expended during the last few years.



It faces south, with excellent views, and the well-arranged accommodation is all on two floors. Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, 5 principal bedrooms and 3 bathrooms, including principal suite. Nursery bedroom and bathroom. 4 staff bedrooms and bathroom. Oil-fired central heating thermostatically controlled. Main electricity and water.

Stabling for 5. Garage for 7.
FIRST-CLASS SQUASH COURT

3 cottages in service occupation. Lawn for two grass tennis courts, hard tennis court, tiled swimming pool (heated), large kitchen garden.



FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH ABOUT 10 ACRES BY AUCTION, July 25 next, if not sold privately.

Solicitors: Messrs. R. A. ROTHERHAM & CO., Coventry

Auctioneers: Messrs. LOCKE & ENGLAND, 166, Parade, Leamington Spa (Tel. 2833) and Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (45608 R.P.L.)

ON ISLAND IN THE RIVER THAMES

Completely unspoilt position with magnificent views up Cliveden Reach above Boulters Lock



2 miles from Maidenhead, 2 miles from Taplow.

AN ATTRACTIVE HOUSE ALL ON ONE FLOOR

2 large reception rooms, 5 bedrooms (2 h. and c.), dressing room, bathroom. Main electric light and water, telephone connected. Secluded garden.

Large wet boathouse.

LONG FRONTAGE TO RIVER

IN ALL ABOUT 3½ ACRE
For Sale Freehold

Sole Agents: Messrs.

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY.
(53913 K.M.)



MAYfair 3771
(15 lines)

20, HANOVER SQUARE, LONDON, W.1
HEREFORD OFFICE: 22 HIGH TOWN (Tel. 5160)

Telegrams:
"Galleries, Wesdo, London"



JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF

8, HANOVER STREET, LONDON, W.1 MAYFAIR 3316-7

Also at CIRENCESTER, NORTHAMPTON, YORK, YEOVIL, CHICHESTER, CHESTER, NEWMARKET AND DUBLIN

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT

STOKE D'ABERNON, SURREY

Cobham 2 miles. Guildford 12 miles. London 20 miles.

THE MANOR HOUSE ESTATE Comprising THE HISTORIC GEORGIAN RESIDENCE



Containing:
HALLS, 6 RECEPTION ROOMS,
25 BEDROOMS, 8 BATHROOMS
with
COTTAGE, FARMBUILDINGS, GARAGES
STABLING
and
**LOVELY GROUNDS BORDERING
THE RIVER MOLE**
SECONDARY HOUSE, 3 COTTAGES
Main water, electricity and gas.
80 acres pastureland, 17 acres woodland.
IN ALL 128 ACRES
WITH PART VACANT POSSESSION



FOR SALE BY AUCTION AS A WHOLE OR IN LOTS (unless previously sold privately) on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1956, at 3 p.m.

Solicitors: Messrs. TROWER, STILL & KEELING, 5, New Square, Lincoln's Inn, W.C.2 (Holborn 3613).
Joint Auctioneers: HEWETT & LEE, 144, High Street, Guildford (Tel. 2811); JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 8, Hanover Street, W.1 (MAYfair 3316).

By direction of Mrs. S. M. Pardoe

THE BARTONBURY, CIRENCESTER

A short distance from the polo ground, completely rural surroundings.

TO BE SOLD FREEHOLD, WITH POSSESSION



Lounge, 3 sitting rooms,
cloak, 6 principal bed
and 2 dressing rooms,
4 bathrooms.

Gardener's cottage.

First-class stabling and
garages with good modern
flat.

Main electricity, gas and
water.

9½ ACRES PASTURE. SIMPLE GROUNDS

Sole Agents: JACKSON-STOPS, Cirencester (Tel. 334-5). (Folio 14,441)

By direction of D. Valentin, Esq.

BADBY HOUSE, NEAR DAVENTRY, NORTHANTS

A CHARMING GEORGIAN HOUSE

500 feet up with magnificent views and in perfect order.

Entrance and staircase
hall, 4 reception rooms,
complete domestic offices,
9 bedrooms, 3 nurseries,
4 bathrooms.

Oil-fired central heating.

Main electric light.

Main water available.

2 FLATS AND LODGE
Model pigsty recently
completed.

Romantic garage block.
Attractive grounds with a
variety of choice flowering
shrubs and trees.

Tennis and croquet lawns. Walled kitchen garden with ranges of glass.

PARKLAND 49½ ACRES. For Sale at a Reasonable Figure.
JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, Bridge Street, Northampton (Tel. 32990).

UNUSUAL BARGAIN IN THE COTSWOLDS

Handy for Cirencester polo ground and Kemble station.

MODERN HOUSE

with 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, cloakroom.

Domestic premises with
Aga.

COTTAGE

Central heating.

Company's water.

Electricity.

Extensive outbuildings including several garages.

Delightful grounds.

Orchard, pasture, etc.

ABOUT 3 ACRES

PRICE FREEHOLD £5,750

Owner's Agents: JACKSON-STOPS, Cirencester (Tel. 334-5). (Folio 14,648)

Sole Agents: JACKSON-STOPS, Cirencester (Tel. 334-5). (Folio 14,648)

WEST SUSSEX—NEAR BIRDHAM AND ITCHENOR

Commanding wonderful views over Chichester harbour to the Downs.

THE BEAUTIFULLY FITTED MODERN RESIDENCE

Containing: Entrance hall,
cloakroom, study, drawing
room, dining room, 6 bed-
rooms, 3 bathrooms, modern
kitchen with Aga.

Staff bedroom and
bathroom.LAUNDRY, DOUBLE
GARAGE, GARDENTENNIS COURT AND
PADDOCKIN ALL NEARLY
3½ ACRES

Main electricity and water. Full central heating.

VACANT POSSESSION ON COMPLETION

Full particulars from JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 37, South Street,
Chichester (Tel. 2633-4), and at 8, Hanover Street, London, W.1.

COTSWOLDS—OVERLOOKING PAINSWICK VALLEY

CHARMING SMALL PERIOD RESIDENCE

Hall, 2 reception rooms,
kitchen, 2 double bed-
rooms, bathroom. Good
attic suitable for con-
version to 2 bedrooms.

Main electricity. Own water
by electric pump.

Septic tank drainage.

Garage. Old coach house. Lovely garden. Orchard.

IN ALL ABOUT 1 ACRE

FOR SALE FREEHOLD PRICE £4,150

JACKSON-STOPS, Dollar Street House, Cirencester (Tel. 334-5).
(Folio 14,632)

LEATHERHEAD

FINE BUILDING SITE WITH MAGNIFICENT VIEWS TO THE SOUTH

ABOUT 2/3 ACRES WITH ALL SERVICES AVAILABLE

175 FEET FRONTAGE AT £15 PER FOOT

Sole Agents: JACKSON-STOPS & STAFF, 8, Hanover Street, W.1.
(Mayfair 3316.)

COTSWOLDS

SUPERB BUILDING SITE

with the benefit of Planning Permission for one house on
14 ACRES

A sunny position, in well wooded country between Cheltenham, Stow-on-the-Wold and Cirencester.

FREEHOLD FOR SALE

Sole Agents: JACKSON-STOPS, Cirencester (Tel. 334-5).

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

THE ST. TUDWAL ISLANDS

CARDIGAN BAY, CAERNARVONSHIRE

1 mile offshore from the Lleyn Peninsula.



FOR SALE BY AUCTION at the Village Hall, Abersoch, on Saturday, July 28, at 2.30 p.m.

Solicitors: Messrs. ARTHEN OWEN & CO., Pwllheli, North Wales.
Auctioneers: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY.

WILTSHIRE

WITHIN EASY REACH OF MARLBOROUGH

On edge of village amidst unspoilt country.
Charming Queen Anne House with pillared entrance.



FOR SALE FREEHOLD £6,500

Sole Agents: KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (24,224 S.C.M.)

SURREY—BERKS BORDERS

NEAR ASCOT AND SUNNINGDALE

Secluded position with South aspect on high ground.



NEARLY 7 ACRES FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (53,904 S.C.M.)

ISLE OF MULL

Close to Dervaig.

AN ATTRACTIVE HOUSE



SALMON AND TROUT FISHING IN THE RIVER BELLART
IN ALL ABOUT 550 ACRES OF FARMLAND (15 ARABLE)

Sole Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (53,511 S.K.H.G.)

MAYfair 3771
(15 lines)

20, HANOVER SQUARE, LONDON, W.I
HEREFORD OFFICE: 22 HIGH TOWN (Tel. 5160)

THE HOME OF THE LATE SHEILA KAYE-SMITH EAST SUSSEX—8 MILES FROM RYE

"LITTLE DOUCE GROVE," NORTHAM

Most attractive House of Kentish ragstone with leaded lights and double doors, the subject of considerable expenditure. Galleried hall, 4 reception rooms, 3 principal suites, each with bathroom, 2 servants' bedrooms and bathroom. Oregon pine floors. Central heating throughout. Main electric light.

Garages for 3 cars, 3 cottages (one let), inexpensive timbered grounds. Grassland (let). Woodland.



FREEHOLD OF 42 ACRES. AUCTION, JULY 31, HANOVER SQUARE

Solicitors: Messrs. RAPER & FOVARQUE, Battle, Sussex.
Auctioneers: Messrs. JAMES WOODHAMS & SON, 27, HIGH STREET, Battle (Tel. 37 and 449), and Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY.

BASINGSTOKE—6 MILES

Excellent train services to Waterloo.

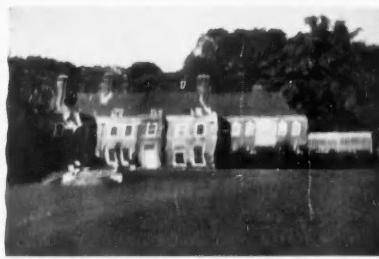
AMIDST PARK-LIKE SURROUNDINGS
CHARMING BRICK-BUILT WILLIAM AND MARY HOUSE

upon which a large sum of money has been spent on modernisation.

4 reception rooms, principal suite of bedroom, dressing room and bathroom, 4 other bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, staff accommodation. On central heating.

Main electric light and water. Garages, stabling.

Cowhouse, 4 cottages. Delightful grounds, including rose garden, walled kitchen garden, greenhouse and paddocks.



IN ALL 59 ACRES. LONG LEASE FOR SALE

Sole Agents: Messrs. CURTIS & WATSON, Alton, and Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (53,767 S.C.M.)

FREEHOLD £5,950. Owner going abroad

GLOS—SOUTH COTSWOLDS

Sheltered position 250 feet up facing due south, with excellent views.
Main line station 2½ miles. (London under 2 hours.)

Attractive modernised PERIOD HOUSE with Regency front; compactly planned on 2 floors only, and easily run.

Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms (4 with fitted basins), dressing room, 2 bathrooms. Central heating. All main services. Double garage. Stable (suitable for conversion). Matured easily maintained gardens, mainly walled. Kitchen garden and orchard (registered as a smallholding).



ABOUT 2½ ACRES

Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (53,105 S.C.M.)

PRICE £5,750 FOR QUICK SALE

SOMERSET—WILTS BORDER

Frome 2 miles. Bath 16 miles. London under 2 hours by fast train.

AN ATTRACTIVE GEORGIAN FARMHOUSE

with later additions, facing south-west, overlooking a wooded vale.

Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 modern bathrooms, playroom.

Main electricity and water. Garages, stabling.

GOOD COTTAGE Delightfully laid out grounds, including tennis lawn, walled garden, orchard and kitchen garden.



ABOUT 2½ ACRES

The House would be sold without the cottage if desired.

Sole Agents: Messrs. KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY. (53,300 S.C.M.)

Telegrams:
"Galleries, Wesdo, London"



HAMPTON & SONS

6, ARLINGTON STREET, ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1

HYDe Park 8222 (20 lines)

Telex: "Selanet, Piccy, London"



"CASTLE HILL," ROTHERFIELD, SUSSEX

AN EXCEPTIONALLY HIGH-CLASS MIXED FARM

Easy reach of Tunbridge Wells and the coast.

264 ACRES

LUXURIOUS HOUSE, 4 RECEPTION, 5 PRINCIPAL AND 5 SECONDARY BEDROOMS, 5 BATHROOMS, NURSERY SUITE, FLAT

CENTRAL HEATING, MAIN SERVICES

HARD TENNIS COURT, SUPERB MODERN BUILDINGS FOR DAIRY AND PIGS, MANAGER'S HOUSE, 6 COTTAGES

SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION IN PRICE

FREEHOLD £32,000 FOR THE WHOLE, OR HOUSE AND 13 ACRES £11,000

THE FARM OF 251 ACRES £21,000

Further details from the Agents:

HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1.

HASLEMERE, SURREY

*Occupying a picked site on high ground and enjoying far-reaching views.
About 1 mile from station with frequent fast train service to Waterloo.*



ATTRACTIVE ENTRANCE LODGE
with 2 sitting rooms, 2 bedrooms, bathroom,
etc.

3 COTTAGES

GARAGES FOR 3-4 CARS

LOVELY GARDENS AND GROUNDS
with hard tennis court, lawns, flower gardens,
walled kitchen garden, yew hedges, grass and
valuable woodland, in all
ABOUT 76 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

RECOMMENDED AS ONE OF THE CHOICEST PROPERTIES
AVAILABLE IN THE COUNTY

Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (S.11665)

By direction of Mr. and Mrs. John Clements.

KENTISH WEALD

*Superbly situated amidst orchards, 300 ft. up with magnificent view. 3 minutes' walk
village, 4 miles station, 1 hour from Victoria.*

ENCHANTING THATCHED ELIZABETHAN RESIDENCE



Carefully restored and with modern comforts. Hall and cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, garden room, maid's room and kitchen, 4 bed, and 2 dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms.

Main electricity and water.

Studio, Range of out-buildings. Garage.

Delightful old world garden, tennis lawn, orchard and woodland.

IN ALL 2 ACRES

FREEHOLD £7,250. UNHESITATINGLY RECOMMENDED

The subject of illustrated article.

Apply: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (K.48910)

ON THE HILLS SOUTH OF DORKING

500 ft. up with a lovely view.

A FASCINATING AND UNIQUE SMALL HOUSE



IN ALL ABOUT 2 ACRES

FREEHOLD £8,750

Apply HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (S.20244a)

BRANCH OFFICES: WIMBLEDON COMMON AND STATION (Tel. WIM 0081 and 6464) AND BISHOP'S STORTFORD (Tel. 243), HERTS.

Designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens, with a beautiful Horsham stone slab roof; occupying a lovely position which cannot be spoilt.

A feature is THE MAGNIFICENT LOUNGE 31 ft. by 19 ft. 6 ins. Dining room, 4 bedrooms (basin), fitted wardrobes, 2 bathrooms, oak staircase and minstrel gallery. Central heating throughout.

Main services. GARAGE Woodland gardens.

NEAR THE PICTURESQUE CHILTERN VILLAGE OF

PENN, BUCKS

*Beautifully situated, 550 ft. up, with far-reaching unspoilt views. On bus route.
Beaconsfield 3 miles.*

MELLOWED AND CHARMING CHARACTER RESIDENCE

in excellent order. Hall and cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, sun loggia, modern kitchen and sitting room. 5-6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

Main services.

GARAGE for 2 cars.

Delightful garden, kitchen garden and orchard in all about

1½ ACRES



FREEHOLD FOR SALE. RECOMMENDED

Rateable value £72.

Apply HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (B.42008)

RINGWOOD

OVERLOOKING THE HAMPSHIRE AVON AND NEW FOREST

Golf at Burley; Bournemouth buses passing gates.

GENTLEMAN'S LUXURY RESIDENCE

Hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, super-kitchen, 5 bedrooms (basins), luxury bathroom.

Aga. Automatic central heating.

Parquet floors throughout.

Main Services.

Double garage, Studio.

Outbuildings.

1 ACRE GARDEN



SUBSTANTIAL PRICE REQUIRED

*Unhesitatingly recommended by the Sole Agents:
HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (H.66701)*

(Continued on Supplement 17)

HYDE PARK
4304

OSBORN & MERCER

MEMBERS OF THE CHARTERED SURVEYORS' AND AUCTIONEERS' INSTITUTES

WORTHING (1 mile from the sea)
Occupying a pleasant position in one of the best parts of the district.
A CHARMING MODERN HOUSE



Brick-built, exceptionally well fitted and in splendid order with 3 reception, 5 bedrooms (all with fitted basins), luxury bathroom.
All Main Services. Double Garage.
Lovely ornamental gardens.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD. VACANT POSSESSION.
Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (21,054)

WALTON-ON-THAMES
A Charming little modern Detached House in first-class order throughout and situate in one of the most sought-after parts of the district.

Hall, 2 reception, 3 bedrooms, bathroom.
All main services.

BRICK-BUILT GARAGE AND DELIGHTFUL SMALL INEXPENSIVE GARDEN
FOR SALE FREEHOLD. VACANT POSSESSION
Sole Agents: Messrs. OSBORN & MERCER, as above (20,975)

NEAR WEST SUSSEX COAST

Conveniently situated about half a mile from the sea.

A DELIGHTFUL MODERN COTTAGE-STYLE HOUSE

Compactly arranged with lounge-dining room, well-fitted modern kitchen, 3 bedrooms, bathroom.
Main services. Brick-built garage.

Beautifully laid-out garden with productive kitchen garden.
FREEHOLD ONLY £3,800
Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (21,044)

28b, ALBEMARLE STREET
PICCADILLY, W.1

6 MILES READING AND HENLEY
A Lovely Regency Farmhouse in charming rural surroundings.



In splendid order with drawing and dining rooms, cloakroom, 3 double bedrooms, 2 luxury bathrooms. Central heating, main electricity and water.
Fine set of outbuildings including staff flat.
Charming garden, walled kitchen garden, etc.
A cottage and up to 23 acres available in addition if required.
Freehold for sale by OSBORN & MERCER, as above.

**1, STATION ROAD,
READING**

READING 54055 (4 lines)

FRESH ON THE MARKET FOR SALE

NICHOLAS

(ESTABLISHED 1882)

**4, ALBANY COURT ROAD,
PICCADILLY, W.1**
REGENT 1184 (3 lines)

CRAY HOUSE, NEAR HENLEY-ON-THAMES

On high ground on the edge of the Harpsden Beechwoods, facing south with lovely views. Shiplake Station for London 2 miles. Reading 6 miles.

A SUPERBLY BUILT HOUSE

with much oak and teak flooring, paneling and joinery.

ENTRANCE HALL, STUDY, DRAWING ROOM (22 ft. by 21 ft.), PANELLED DINING HALL (32 ft. by 17 ft. 10 ins.)

MORNING ROOM

7 PRINCIPAL BEDROOMS

(including nursery suite)

with 2 DRESSING ROOMS

and 3 BATHROOMS



For illustrated particulars and Order to View: apply Messrs. NICHOLAS (Reading Office).

By order of Mrs. Leslie Smith.

GREEN ACRE, HURST, BERKSHIRE

Between Twyford and Wokingham with excellent train service to Paddington and Waterloo.

A PRETTY OLD-WORLD HOUSE

Skillfully converted from old cottages of 16th-century character.



FREEHOLD

FOR SALE BY AUCTION, AUGUST 9 (unless sold previously by private treaty)

Illustrated particulars from Sole Agents: Messrs. NICHOLAS (Reading Office).

First time in the market for 18 years.

BROOMLEAF HOUSE,**EWSHOT, NEAR FARNHAM**

In the well-wooded ridge between Farnham (2½ miles) and Odham (6 miles) with magnificent views.

Hall with cloakroom. 3 good reception rooms. Kitchen with Aga, maid's sitting room with cloakroom. 4 principal bedrooms (each with basin). 2 bathrooms. 2 separate w.c.s. 4 serv. bedrooms. Mains and radiators throughout.

Double garage.

Cottage.

Lovely well-timbered ground, in all **5½ ACRES**, including woodland and rough pasture.

**A SPLENDIDLY BUILT HOUSE**

FREEHOLD TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION ON JULY 31 (offers considered meanwhile)

Sole Agents: Messrs. NICHOLAS (apply Reading Office).



BERNARD THORPE & PARTNERS

LONDON AND OXTED

YORK

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE

EDINBURGH

SURREY-SUSSEX BORDER

Facing village green, 5 miles Horsham.

**MODERNISED TUDOR COTTAGE**

2 reception, cloaks, 3 bedrooms, bathroom. Main electricity. Garage, garden, paddock and orchard
2 ACRES

KENT

Bounded by farmlands near Tonbridge

**17TH-CENTURY PERIOD HOUSE**

3 reception, cloaks, 5 beds. (3 basins), bathroom. Main electricity. Double garage, garden and paddock, in all
2 ACRES

Details of the above and other Freehold Properties from West End Office.

West End Office: 129, Mount Street, Berkeley Square, Mayfair, W.1 (GROvernor 2501). Head Office: 1, Buckingham Palace Road, Westminster, S.W.1. (VIctoria 3012). Branches at St. Helen's Square, York; 8, Central Arcade, Grainger Street, Newcastle upon Tyne; 21a, Ainslie Place, Edinburgh; and Oxted, Surrey.

CHILTERNS

Facing Chesham Bois Common.

**A MODERN RESIDENCE**

3 reception, cloaks, 5-6 bedrooms, bathroom. ALL MAINS GARAGE AND GARDEN.

GROSVENOR 1553
(4 lines)

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1778)

25, MOUNT STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE, LONDON, W.I.

13, Hobart Place,
Eaton Square,
5, West Halkin Street,
Belgrave Square,
London, S.W.1.

MAGNIFICENT POSITION ON CORNISH RIVIERA

*Far reaching views of sea and coastline***THIS BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED MODERN RESIDENCE**
was erected in 1937 on a picked site selected only after an intensive search.**2 ACRES FREEHOLD. PRICE £7,900**Sole Agents: GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.I.
R.A.W.(A7554)5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms,
2-3 reception rooms.Garage and chauffeur's
room.

Main water and electricity.

Fitted basins.

Central heating.

Fine gardens made on
the sloping cliff edge at
a cost of many thou-
sands of pounds and
having access to
secluded bathing cove.

RURAL MID-SUSSEX

Village 1½ miles, small town 2½ miles, electric main line 5½ miles.

A CHOICE SMALL 16TH-CENTURY FARMHOUSE
OF GREAT CHARACTER

Thoroughly modernised and carefully maintained.

4-5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms,
2 reception rooms, modern
kitchen (Aga), etc.

Central heating.

2-3 Garages.

Stabling, Sussex barn.

OASTHOUSE
(suitable for cottage).Colourful garden, pond
and paddock bounded by
stream.**IN ALL 6 ACRES or with additional 70 acres of excellent farmland, now let.**
Further particulars from the Sole Agents, GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.I. C.B.A.(E.2121)

HERTFORDSHIRE

Lovely rural position, only 23 miles from London.

TO BE LET UNFURNISHED ON LEASE

A DELIGHTFUL TUDOR PERIOD
MANOR HOUSE*Fully modernised and in excellent order.*7 PRINCIPAL BED AND DRESSING ROOMS, STAFF
ROOMS, 4 BATHROOMS, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS,
ETC.*Central heating, Main electricity, Unfailing water supply.*

COTTAGE GARAGES

BARN AND OUTBUILDINGS

Beautiful garden and grounds.

Pastureland bounded by the River Lea.

18 ACRES

Rent, including rates, about

£600 P.A. NO PREMIUMConfidently recommended by the Owner's Agents,
GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London,
W.I. E.H.T.(C.4714)

IN A BERKSHIRE VILLAGE

*Towards Hampshire border, 4 miles electric train service
Waterloo (about 1 hour).*ARCHITECT-CONVERSION OF TWO QUEEN ANNE
COTTAGES, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms.
All main services. Detached garage. **1/4 ACRE** (more
available).**£4,500 FREEHOLD**GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London
W.I. DL(BX1421)

KENT

*In beautiful unspoilt country 25 miles from London.
Main line station 2 miles.*A MOST ATTRACTIVE ELIZABETHAN
MANOR HOUSE*Facing due south with delightful views.*8 BEDROOMS, DRESSING ROOM, 2 BATHROOMS,
2 LARGE RECEPTION ROOMS, AMPLE DOMESTIC
OFFICES INCLUDING STAFF SITTING ROOM.*Main water and gas. Main electricity available.*

Garage and useful outbuildings.

FINELY TIMBERED GARDENS AND GROUNDS

ABOUT 4 ACRES FREEHOLD
(more land available)**PRICE £4,000**Note. The house requires modernising and planning
permission has been obtained for conversion
into two self-contained units if required.Full particulars from the Owner's Agents: GEORGE
TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.I.
E.H.T.(A.2852)GROSVENOR
2861

TRESIDDER & CO.

Telegrams:
"Cornishmen (Audley), London"

WEST SUSSEX

2½ miles Pulborough (1½ hours London). 1 mile golf. Near village.

PICTURESQUE OLD SUSSEX HOUSE WITH MODERN ADDITION

In excellent order. Oil-fired central heating.
Main electricity and water.5 bedrooms, dressing,
2 bathrooms, 3 reception.GARAGE FOR 3
OUTBUILDINGSVery pleasant manageable
garden, lawn, rose beds,
kitchen garden, orchard,
pasture and woods.**10½ ACRES****ONLY £8,750 FREEHOLD**

TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.I. (22,678)

NO COMMISSION WANTED

URGENTLY REQUIRED. COUNTRY HOUSE OF CHARACTER

6-7 bed., 2-3 bath., 3 reception. Main electric light and water.

Central heating and cottage or flat liked.

6 UP TO 50 ACRES

BETWEEN HENLEY AND OXFORD, OR ON
OXFORDSHIRE COTSWOLDSParticulars and if possible photographs to
TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, London, W.I.

HIGH ON THE CHILTERN

Between Oxford, Henley and Aylesbury.

CHARMING COUNTRY HOUSE

Hall, cloakroom, 3 reception, bathroom, 8 bed and dressing rooms. Main electricity, Central heating. Double garage, loose boxes. Delightful gardens, kitchen garden, greenhouses, orchard, field (lets) and woodland.

21 ACRES. Would divide.**BARGAIN AT £7,000 FREEHOLD**

TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.I. (11,859)

S.E. DEVON

2 miles from sea on rising ground. Picturesque views over the Axe Valley.

A DISTINCTIVE MODERN HOUSE

3 reception, 2 bath., 5-8 bed., excellent domestic offices. Garage and flat. Main electricity and water. Pleasure and kitchen gardens, glasshouse, paddock,

BOUNDED BY TROUT STREAM

Facilities for market gardening, pigs/poultry farming if desired.

TRESIDDER & CO., 77, South Audley Street, W.I. (25,023)

GOSLING & MILNER

Wentworth, Virginia Water.
(Tel. Wentworth 2277)8 Lower Grosvenor Place S.W.1.
(Tel. Victoria 3634)

VIRGINIA WATER—IN A PROTECTED POSITION

Station easy walking distance. Golf at Wentworth 1 mile. London 40 mins. rail.

ATTRACTIVE COUNTRY HOUSE OF PLEASING DESIGN

Beautifully fitted. Completely redecorated in
impeccable taste.

2 floors only.

Hall, 3 reception rooms,
games and sun room,
5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms,
3-roomed staff flat and
bathroom.

All main services.

CENTRAL HEATING

2-CAR GARAGE

Landscape garden of
exceptional beauty but
easy of maintenance.**ABOUT 2½ ACRES****Freehold. VERY STRONGLY RECOMMENDED**

Further details from the Owner's Agents: GOSLING & MILNER, as above.

A. T. UNDERWOOD & CO.

And at
OCKHAM, RIPLEY
SURREY

SURREY

*Between Guildford and Horsham in good riding country.*Suitable for miniature
stud farm. Charming

16th-century oak-beamed Residence.

Clockroom, 2 reception

rooms, 3 bedrooms (all
b., and c. basins), well-fitted

bathroom. Central

heating, main water and

electricity.

Double garage, groom's

cottage and fine range

of stabling.

ABOUT 2½ ACRES**PRICE FREEHOLD**

£8,000

Ref. 8380

SUSSEX between Balcombe and Haywards Heath. **COUNTRY HOUSE**

WITH LOVELY VIEWS.

Hall, cloakroom, 2 reception rooms, small break-

fast room, 5 bedrooms (2 b. and c.) and 2 bathrooms. Main services. Double

garage. Pretty garden of **1 ACRE.** **BARGAIN AT £5,000**

Ref. 1380.

HAYWARDS HEATH 5 MILES. Period Gem in village. 2 reception, 4 bed-

rooms and bathroom. Main services. Garage. **COTTAGE AND ¾ ACRE.**

£4,950.

Ref. 10681.



5, MOUNT STREET,
LONDON, W.1
GROsvenor
5131 (8 lines)

One of the "Lesser Country Houses" described in a "Country Life" article.

HEREFORDSHIRE. ABOVE THE RIVER WYE

In a lovely rural position between Hereford and Ross-on-Wye, near Kings Caple.



MOST ATTRACTIVE
OLD-WORLD HOUSE OF
LONG LOW ELEVATION,
well modernised and in
good order. Comprising:
2-3 reception rooms, cloak-
room and kitchen quarters,
4 principal bedrooms and
3 bathrooms. Staff wing of
sitting room, 3 bedrooms and
bathroom.

Fine garden playroom.

Large garage and other out-
buildings. Beautiful garden
with good kitchen garden on
a southern slope.

ENTRANCE LODGE

ABOUT 7 ACRES IN ALL. PRICE £6,750 FREEHOLD

A mile of fishing on the Wye with good cottage also available

Sole Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, London.

WINCHELSEA, SUSSEX

SELF-CONTAINED PART OF DELIGHTFUL OLD HOUSE

Attractively modernised to provide entrance hall, cloakroom, 2 reception rooms, 3-4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, kitchen, etc.

Small garden with garage space.

PRICE £4,750 FREEHOLD

Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, London.

SURREY, between REIGATE & EAST GRINSTEAD

4 miles main line station (London 35 minutes). Unspoilt rural aspect facing south with superb views.

COUNTRY HOUSE OF CONVENIENT SIZE FOR FAMILY

Containing:

3 reception rooms, 7 main bedrooms, 3 bathrooms. Esse cooker, oil-fired central heating.

Main services.

Small garden and paddock.

ABOUT 6 ACRES. PRICE £4,500 FREEHOLD

Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, as above, or SKINNER & ROSE, Reigate (Tel. Reigate 4747).

RALPH PAY & TAYLOR

GROsvenor
1032-33-34

3, MOUNT STREET,
LONDON, W.1
WEST SUSSEX, NR. PULBOROUGH

CHARMING SMALL PERIOD HOUSE IN
PLEASANT RURAL SETTING



3 miles main line station. Main electricity and water. Garage. Easily maintained gardens, small lake and stream. Vacant Possession of house and about 4 ACRES.

FREEHOLD £4,750. Daily help available.
T.T. Dairy Farm of over 100 acres (let at £105 p.a.) available if required.

ON THE WELL-KNOWN
SUTTON PLACE ESTATE, NEAR
GUILDFORD
30 MINUTES FROM WATERLOO



FINE OLD GEORGIAN MILL HOUSE, completely brought up to date regardless of expense. 5 bed., 3 bath., 2 reception. Main electric light and water. Tubular bar electric heating throughout. Charming natural garden, about ½ ACRE.
PRICE FREEHOLD £8,000
with option to purchase 3-ACRE PADDOCK.

ON A RIDGE OVERLOOKING THE
ENGLISH CHANNEL
MIDWAY BETWEEN HASTINGS AND BATTLE



**AN EXCEPTIONALLY CHOICE MODERN
RESIDENCE IN PERFECT CONDITION**
5 principal bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, lounge hall and 3 reception rooms.

Part central heating. All main services. Garage. In a beautiful setting of trees, lawns, etc., in all about 2½ ACRES. **FREEHOLD £5,000**

16, ARCADE STREET,
IPSWICH
Ipswich 4334

CLOSE DEVON COAST

3 miles Ilfracombe, 10 Barnstaple.

FINE RESIDENCE, BEAUTIFULLY PLACED



AN EXCEPTIONAL FREEHOLD PROPERTY

Recommended by Joint Sole Agents, SANDERS & SON, Barnstaple (Tel. 3093) and WOODCOCKS, London Office.

WOODCOCKS

30, ST. GEORGE STREET,
HANOVER SQUARE, W.1
MAYfair 5411

Bounded by mill stream and boating river Waveney.
SUFFOLK NORFOLK BORDER. Lady's tastefully modernised old-world cottage (tilled) in enchanting riverside setting of 3 ACRES, delightful garden, large meadow, beautiful trees, weir, waterfall. 2 reception, up-to-date kitchen, 3 bedrooms, well-fitted bath (h.e.). Mains electricity, automatic water, garage, etc. Irresistible to nature lover, fisherman, etc., and those seeking quiet and peaceful surroundings.

FREEHOLD £2,850. Early inspection advised. Apply Ipswich Office.

WEST SUFFOLK, tastefully modernised half-timbered XVth-Century Residence having diamond-pane windows, brick fireplaces, etc., cloaks, heavily beamed lounge (22 ft. by 17 ft.), dining room, up-to-date kitchen (Automatic Aga), 3 bedrooms, extra bathroom, 2 w.c.s., all mains. Small walled garden. **FREEHOLD £3,650.** Recommended by Ipswich Office.

100 ft. up with glimpses of the River Deben.
WOODBRIDGE. Residence of distinction and character, part early Georgian, with South aspect, in well matured grounds of about 1½ ACRES, perfect order and particularly well appointed and equipped; cloaks, 2-3 reception (one 24 ft. by 21 ft. 6 in.), 4-5 bedrooms (3 with basins), up-to-date kitchen (4 oven Aga), 2 bathrooms, mains electricity, gas and water, complete central heating. Double garage, hard tennis court. **FREEHOLD £6,850.** Recommended by Ipswich Office.

In a setting of great beauty only 4 miles west of Tunbridge Wells.
MODERNISED XVIth-CENTURY RESIDENCE, 3 reception, 4-5 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, main electricity and water. Range of T.T. dairy and stock buildings with yards and nearly 80 ACRES fertile land amidst many fine trees. A choice freehold property just inspected and recommended. Full details, WOODCOCKS, London Office.

NORFOLK

Close to Downham Market. King's Lynn 12 miles.

FIFTEENTH-CENTURY MANOR HOUSE

With many interesting and historic features.



ABOUT 17 ACRES IN ALL. PRICE £5,000 FREEHOLD. Offers invited.

Joint Sole Agents: Messrs. CURTIS & HENSON, London and Banbury, and Messrs. CHAS. HAWKINS & SONS, Downham Market (Tel. 2370).

By direction of the Warden of Fellows of Winchester College.

DORSET

HUISH FARM, SYDLING ST. NICHOLAS

NEAR DORCHESTER

FREEHOLD DAIRY AND MIXED AGRICULTURAL HOLDING
WITH AN ATTRACTIVE FLINT, BRICK AND THATCHED FARMHOUSE

Scheduled as a building of historic interest.

THREE SETS OF BUILDINGS, 3 COTTAGES
and about

348 ACRES OF ARABLE AND PASTURELAND

WITH VACANT POSSESSION AT 29th SEPTEMBER NEXT

FOR SALE BY AUCTION (unless previously sold) together with various cottage properties, at the ANTELOPE HOTEL, DORCHESTER, ON AUGUST 1, 1956.

Auctioneers: CURTIS & HENSON, London.

23, MOUNT STREET,
GROSVENOR SQUARE, LONDON, W.1.

BUCKS. 40 MINUTES BAKER ST.
400 ft. An much favoured Chalfont St. Giles area. Close to
Golf Course and Station. Ideally placed for daily travel



A CHARMING COUNTRY HOME
6-7 bed., 3 bath., 2 reception. Mains. Central heating.
Delightful gardens. **NEARLY 1 ACRE.**
ONLY £5,950 FREEHOLD
Immediate possession.
Cottage and further land available.

WILSON & CO.

GROSVENOR
1441

WANTED URGENTLY BY CLIENT

Active purchaser requires to find a really comfortable home
with large and spacious rooms not more than 25 miles
from London.

RADIUS 12 MILES SEVENOAKS

6-8 BED., 2-3 BATH., INCLUDING MASTER
SUITE WITH BATHROOM ADJOINING. 2-3 GOOD
SIZED RECEPTION WITH HIGH CEILINGS
EASY STAIRS ESSENTIAL

Cottage or flat liked.

Matured gardens (flat) with productive kitchen garden.

GOOD PRICE PAID FOR RIGHT HOUSE

Details to Surveyors: Wilson & Co., 23, Mount Street, W.1,
marked "Weybridge".

SUPERB POSITION IN SUSSEX

Magnificent south views. Main line station 1½ miles,
6 miles from coast. Between Tunbridge Wells and the sea.



A CHARMING PERIOD HOUSE WITH SMALL HOME FARM. NEARLY 20 ACRES

6 bed., 3 bath., 3 reception. Aga, Agamatic. 2 cottages.
Small T.T. farmery.

£8,950 FREEHOLD. VACANT POSSESSION

Would be let furnished for the summer.

WINCHESTER
FLEET
FARNBOROUGH

ALFRED PEARSON & SON

HARTLEY WINTNEY
ALDERSHOT
ALRESFORD

NORTH HAMPSHIRE

Charming garden affording ideal seclusion
Easy reach station (Waterloo 1 hour) and walking distance of shops.



GROUND 1½ ACRES. FREEHOLD. OFFERS INVITED

Fleet Office. Tel. 1066.

5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms,
3 reception rooms
(one 20 ft. x 16 ft.)
2 garages.

All Main Services.

Owner must sell.

5 bedrooms, dressing
room, bathroom, lounge
(26 ft. 7 ins. x 18 ft.)
Dining room, cloakroom,
study or workshop.

Double Garage.

Useful Outbuildings.

All main services.

Attractive Garden.



FREEHOLD £5,250

Winchester Office. Tel. 3388.

20, HIGH STREET,
HASLEMERE (Tel. 1207-8)

H. B. BAVERSTOCK & SON

4, CASTLE STREET,
FARNHAM (Tel. 5274-5)

RURAL WEST SUSSEX

In picturesque village with glorious open views over farm
land. Haslemere 4 miles.



A GENUINE TUDOR COTTAGE

Modernised and in attractive order. 4-5 bedrooms,
bathroom, 3 reception rooms, cloakroom, hall, modern
domestic offices. Mains water and electricity. 2 garages.

1½ ACRES with paddock.

£5,500 FREEHOLD. POSSESSION

Haslemere Office.

URGENT WEST SURREY ENQUIRY

A SUBSTANTIAL APPLICANT

who has sold her present residence and must give
possession shortly, seeks a

SMALL COUNTRY HOUSE

6 bedrooms, 1-2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms.

A few acres for normal privacy.

COTTAGE OR STAFF FLAT desirable.

PRICE ABOUT £10,000

Owners are invited to communicate in confidence with

H. B. BAVERSTOCK & SON, as above.

(Usual commission required.)

Godalming Office.

FARNHAM, SURREY

Best residential area. Few minutes' walk of main line
station (Waterloo one hour).



MODERN HOUSE OF CHARACTER. 6 bedrooms,
2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, play room. Central
heating by Janitor. All main services. Double garage
and outbuildings. Matured garden ½ ACRE.

FREEHOLD £7,950 WITH POSSESSION

Farnham Office.

Chartered Surveyors
and Auctioneers

HOLLIS & WEBB

3, PARK PLACE,
LEEDS, 1

YORKSHIRE, NORTH RIDING ROBIN HOOD'S BAY THE THORPE HALL ESTATE IN 4 LOTS



Which HOLLIS & WEBB will sell by AUCTION (unless previously sold
by private treaty) at the CROWN HOTEL, WHITBY, on THURSDAY,
JULY 26, 1956, at 2.30 p.m. (subject to Conditions)

For plans and particulars, viewing arrangements and any further information, apply
to HOLLIS & WEBB, Chartered Surveyors and Auctioneers, 3, Park Place, Leeds, 1.
Tel. 29671; H. T. TATE, F.R.I.C.S., F.L.A.S., Robin Hood's Bay, Whitby, or to
FARRER & CO., Solicitors, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C.2.

CAVENDISH HOUSE (CHELTENHAM) LTD.

Estate Office LITTLE PROMENADE, CHELTENHAM

NEAR TEWKESBURY

In a delightful rural setting away from main roads, within 1 mile of the River Avon
and some 12 miles from Cheltenham.

PICTURESQUE THATCHED COTTAGE RESIDENCE

Full of old-world
features in conjunction
with modern conveniences.

Including:
Main electricity and
constant hot water.

LOUNGE-DINING ROOM

DRAWING ROOM

3 BEDROOMS

WELL-FITTED BATH-
ROOM



Delightful pleasure gardens together with a well-stocked orchard-paddock.

ABOUT 2 ACRES IN ALL. Large garage and other useful outbuildings.

PRICE £3,850 ONLY

JOHN D. WOOD & CO.

NEAR KNEBWORTH, HERTS

AN EXCEPTIONAL RESIDENTIAL FARM



A Modernised Medium Size Georgian Residence with

Lounge, drawing room, dining room, offices, Show kitchen fully fitted, 6 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms.

Modern central heating.

Parklike grounds. Garages. Good bailiff's house and 6 other cottages. Ample modernised farm buildings, including cowhouses with standings for 55 and extensive piggeries. Good concrete yards.

Main electricity and water throughout.

ABOUT 387 ACRES FREEHOLD with Vacant Possession.

Free of tithe and land tax.



Particulars and photographs from the Agents: JOHN D. WOOD & CO., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (J.40.556)

AUCTION IN LOTS

ABBOTS LEIGH ESTATE, HAYWARDS HEATH IMPOSING AND WELL-SITED RESIDENCE



4 reception, 14 bed and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms. Central heating, main electricity.

Lovely terraced gardens with paddock and woodland. 11 ACRES

CHAUFFEUR'S HOUSE, garages and stabling with main electricity and small garden.

SOUTH COLWELL. Period farmhouse with buildings and 17 ACRES.

ABBOTS LEIGH KITCHEN GARDEN with bungalow, glasshouses and 2 ACRES.

ALL THE ABOVE WITH VACANT POSSESSION

ALSO (FOR INVESTMENT)
North Colwell Farmhouse, buildings and 20 acres let at £61 per annum.



AUCTION AT THE HAYWORTHE HOTEL, HAYWARDS HEATH, TUESDAY, JULY 31, 1956

Solicitors: Messrs. THEODORE BELL, COTTON & CO., 16, Waterloo Road, Epsom.

Joint Auctioneers: T. BANNISTER & CO., Market Place, Haywards Heath (Haywards Heath 607); JOHN D. WOOD & CO., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (MAYfair 6341).

NEAR GUILDFORD

THE ATTRACTIVE AND COMFORTABLE RESIDENCE CHINTHURST, SHALFORD

In a favourite and beautiful district. Daily reach of London.

Buses every 10 minutes to Guildford.



Partly Georgian, with large sash windows, facing West with fine distant views.

Halls, 2 charming reception rooms, modernised offices, 8 bed and dressing and 2 bathrooms.

SELF-CONTAINED WING with large reception room, 2 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms.

ALL SERVICES. Very beautiful, easily maintained secluded garden. Tennis lawn, paddock, orchard, 2 garages.

ABOUT 6½ ACRES, FOR SALE PRIVATELY

Joint Agents:
MESSINGER, MORGAN & MAY, 8, Quarry Street, Guildford, and
JOHN D. WOOD & CO., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1.

SUSSEX. £6,500 FREEHOLD

ATTRACTIVE OAK-BEAMED RESIDENCE

Near charming village, 8 miles from Tunbridge Wells.



3 reception rooms, 6-7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Staff cottage with 4 rooms. Garages. Simple garden. 2 paddocks. 6 acres with possession.

Full particulars from JOHN D. WOOD & CO., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (J.33.233)

By order of Mr. Noel Coward.

KENT

Commanding delightful views.

GOLDENHURST, ALDINGTON, NEAR ASHFORD

A beautiful Manor

House. Hall, 3 reception rooms, large studio or bdrm, 6 principal bedrooms, 5 bathrooms, 4 secondary bedrooms. Central heating, main water, private electricity supply. Garage for 4 cars. Old barn. Excellent cottage. Delightful grounds, paddock and woodland.

ABOUT 32 ACRES.

For Sale by Auction, unless sold privately, at Ashford, Kent, on Tuesday, July 31, 1956.

Solicitors: Messrs. WALTERS & HART, 18, Mansfield Street, Portland Place, London, W.1.

Joint Auctioneers: BURROWS, CLEMENTS, WINCH & SONS, Ashford (Tel. 2194), and Cranbrook (Tel. 2147), Kent, and JOHN D. WOOD & CO., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1.

SOUTH-WEST SURREY

EASY REACH OF WATERLOO

ATTRACTIVE MODERN RESIDENCE

Commanding excellent views for some 23-30 miles.

Hall, 3 reception rooms, garden room, cloakroom, a main bedroom, 2 staff bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

All main services. Central heating.

2 GARAGES. Summer house. Terraced garden, flowering shrubs and woodland.



ABOUT 1½ ACRES. PRICE £6,250

Sole Agents: JOHN D. WOOD & CO., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.1. (B.22.187)

MAYfair 6341
(10 lines)

23, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

Telegrams:
"Wood, Agents, Wesdo, London"

BOURNEMOUTH
SOUTHAMPTON

FOX & SONS

BRIGHTON
WORTHING

EAST SUSSEX

*Pleasant position in a quiet village 6 miles from Lewes.
A PICTURESQUE OLD COTTAGE***IN ALL ABOUT 3/4 ACRE. PRICE £4,250 FREEHOLD**

Fox & Sons, 117 and 118, Western Road, Brighton. Tel. Hove 39201 (7 lines).

HAMBLE RIVER

Occupying a pleasant site within a short distance of first-class yachting facilities, about 7 miles Southampton.

A DETACHED MODERN RESIDENCE



Fox & Sons, 32, London Road, Southampton. Tel. 25155 (4 lines).

4 BEDROOMS,
3 with built-in cupboards.
**HALF-TILED
BATHROOM,**
3 RECEPTION ROOMS,
sun loggia,
cloakroom,
kitchen
Main services.
garage
workshop
Well laid-out garden.
Price £4,950 Freehold.

BETWEEN ALRESFORD AND PETERSFIELD

*Occupying a high and healthy position standing about 600 feet above sea level and with fine views to the south.*FREEHOLD
COUNTRY RESIDENCE**4 BEDROOMS, DRESSING ROOM, BATH-
ROOM, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS, CLOAKROOM,
DOMESTIC OFFICES***Main services.*

DOUBLE GARAGE

WORKSHOP



Fox & Sons, 32, London Road, Southampton. Tel. 25155 (4 lines).

SUSSEX

A SMALL COUNTRY RESIDENCE

*Facing south and having magnificent uninterrupted views of the South Downs.
Brighton 6 miles.*Garage. Delightful garden of about **1 ACRE****PRICE £4,750 FREEHOLD**

Fox & Sons, 117 and 118, Western Road, Brighton. Tel. Hove 39201 (7 lines).

SOUTH HAMPSHIRE

4 miles from Christchurch Harbour, 9 miles Bournemouth.

ATTRACTIVE SMALL RESIDENCE

**PRICE £3,900 FREEHOLD**

Fox & Sons, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. Tel. 6300.

*Situated in a quiet lane.***3 bedrooms, bathroom,
2 sitting rooms,
cloakroom, kitchen.***Main water and electricity.*

GARAGE

*Charming pleasure garden
and large kitchen garden.*

Convenient to SALISBURY AND BOURNEMOUTH

Attractive rural surroundings restricted against future building development.

2 MILES FORDINGBRIDGE - 5 MILES RINGWOOD

*Picturesque labour-
saving thatched Cottage
Residence recently re-
decorated throughout.***3 bedrooms, dressing room,
bathroom, 2 reception
rooms, sun room, cloak-
room, kitchen.**

BRICK GARAGE

*Central heating throughout.**Main electricity and water.**Well laid-out gardens.***ABOUT 1/2 ACRE****PRICE £4,500 FREEHOLD**

Fox & Sons, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. Tel. 6300.

WEST SUSSEX

*A FINE OLD PERIOD RESIDENCE within the Borough of Worthing
Occupying a secluded position in a large walled garden, facing south on the outskirts
of the town.**A most attractive
Detached Freehold
17th-century Residence
having a profusion of
oak beams and well
modernised.***5-6 bedrooms, bathroom,
lounge-hall, 3 reception
rooms, cloakroom, compact
domestic offices.***All main services.**Garage. Old-world grounds.***PRICE £5,950 FREEHOLD**

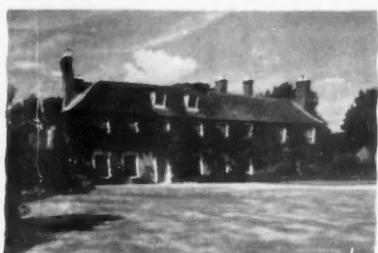
Fox & Sons, 41, Chapel Road, Worthing. Tel. 6120.



Tel. (3 lines)
GROsvenor 3121

HAMPSHIRE COAST

Near good yachting centre. Main line station 4 miles.



A CHARMING QUEEN ANNE RESIDENCE
7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 4 reception rooms. Polished floors. Central heating. All main services. Garage. Cottage. Walled garden and paddock, all about **12 ACRES. PRICE £12,000**
WINKWORTH & CO., 48, Curzon St., W.1 (GRO. 3121).

WINKWORTH & CO.

48, CURZON STREET
LONDON, W.1

CORNWALL

6 miles from country town and station.



A FINE HOUSE DATING FROM 12th CENTURY
on high ground with south view. 7 bed. and dressing rooms, 2 bath., and 4 reception rooms. Central heating. Electricity. Fitted basins. Stabling. Garage. 2 cottages. Garden and grounds with stream.
PRICE £8,000 WITH 55 ACRES
WINKWORTH & CO., 48, Curzon St., W.1 (GRO. 3121).

WINDSOR, BURNHAM
FARNHAM COMMON

BURNHAM, BUCKS

Just south of the Beeches. Only 5 minutes' walk from Golf Club House and village, and a mile from the station (Paddington 35 minutes).

ARCHITECT-DESIGNED RESIDENCE
erected in 1953

4 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM, 2 RECEPTION ROOMS (communicating by folding doors), WELL-EQUIPPED KITCHEN.
Integral garage.
Main services.
Mahogany parquet floors.
Excellent condition.
Well laid out garden of **1/2 ACRE**

Apply: Burnham office (Tel. 1000-1).

A. C. FROST & CO.

BEACONSFIELD
GERRARDS CROSS

URGENTLY WANTED**A CHARACTER HOUSE IN COUNTRY**

Preferably Winkfield Englefield Green/Ascot, or surrounding areas, including South Bucks.

6 BEDROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS, 3 RECEPTION,
Central heating.

Sufficient grounds for seclusion.

PRICE UP TO £10,000

For special applicant Major W., c/o A. C. Frost & Co. (Tel. Windsor 2580-1).

DORKING (Tel. 2212)
EFFINGHAM (Tel. Bookham 2801)
BOOKHAM (Tel. 2744)

**PARTICULARLY COMFORTABLE
SMALL COUNTRY RESIDENCE
IN BEAUTIFUL ORDER**

Farnham, Surrey, 4½ miles. London under 1 hour.



On 2 floors only. 4 or 5 beds. (b. and e.), bathroom and w.c., cloakroom (b. and e.), and w.c., lounge 25 ft. by 14 ft. Dining room 27 ft. by 15 ft. Third sitting room. Kitchen. C.h. Excellent outbuildings. 2½ acres with new swimming pool and tennis court. All modern conveniences. **Price only £6,250.** Owner going abroad.

CUBITT & WEST, Farnham Office. OX 2201

CUBITT & WEST

Outstanding New Colonial-Style Bungalow with pleasant views over its own grounds.



HAMPSHIRE-SURREY BORDERS. Within easy reach of Haslemere and Liphook. Designed for absolute labour-saving. 3 beds., tiled bathroom, L-shaped lounge to terrace, utility room (or 4th bedroom), spacious hall and kitchen with Aga. Garage and laundry. Main services. Grounds of nearly **5½ ACRES** in natural meadow state. **FOR SALE BY AUCTION, AUGUST 23, 1956**

CUBITT & WEST, Haslemere Office. (H.723)

HASLEMERE (Tel. 680)
FARNHAM (Tel. 5261)
HINDHEAD (Tel. 63)

**HANTS/SURREY BORDERS
MODERN HOUSE BUILT IN 1950**

On the outskirts of a much sought-after village. Situated in rural position near to well-known beauty spots and close to a bus route. Haslemere main line station 4 miles. Spacious hall, 2 recs., kitchen, 3 beds., bathroom. Main services. **1½ ACRE** garden in natural state. Part C.H. **FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY OR AUCTION LATER**

CUBITT & WEST, Haslemere Office. (H.722)

CLARKE, GAMMON & EMERYS
GUILDFORD, GODALMING, HINDHEAD & LIPHOOK**SOUTH SIDE OF GUILDFORD**

Pleasant position near the Chantry, within walking distance of main line station and shopping centre.

**ATTRACTIVE
MODERN HOUSE
FACING SOUTH**

Hall, cloakroom, 2 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, bathroom, GARAGE, ETC.

Pleasantly laid-out garden on southern slope.

Rateable value £101.

PRICE £6,750

Offers considered.

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NORTH WALES—LLANDUDNO**AN ATTRACTIVE, DETACHED, MARINE RESIDENCE
"EDGECLIFFE," CRAIGSIDE, LLANDUDNO**

Commanding extensive views, and sheltered by the Little Orme. The accommodation briefly affords:

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UNIQUE POSITION IN GREEN BELT AREA 16 MILES WEST OF LONDON

Enjoying perfect seclusion and virtually in the country between Uxbridge and Ruislip.

A BEAUTIFUL EXAMPLE OF DOMESTIC ARCHITECTURE IN THE TUDOR STYLE



Incorporating such features as genuine antique fireplaces, oak panelling and floors, oak staircase and fine oak timbering.

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Attractive entrance hall and cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, 5 or 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

All main services.

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Delightful secluded gardens about

1½ ACRES

with golf links at end and fields all around.



A luxury home of quite exceptional merit which has been the subject of considerable expenditure.

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ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF A CHARMING OLD-WORLD VILLAGE
BETWEEN THE SOUTH DOWNS AND THE SEA

Enjoying a fine rural position overlooking farmland, but within 3 miles of Worthing



A home of restful character with a secluded walled garden. Well-planned accommodation.

3 RECEPTION ROOMS,
5 BEDROOMS,
FITTED BASINS,
BATHROOM

Aga cooker.

Main services.

GARAGE FOR 2 CARS
TENNIS LAWN

and many other features.

RECOMMENDED AS SOUND VALUE AT £6,750

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IN CENTURIES OLD SETTING NEAR THE BERKSHIRE
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Within a triangle formed by Oxford, Reading and Newbury.

ENTRANCE HALL, 3 FINE RECEPTION ROOMS, 5 BEDROOMS,
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All main services.

2 GARAGES AND STABLING

DELIGHTFUL SECLUDED GARDENS ABOUT 2 ACRES

SOUND VALUE AT £6,750

A QUICK SALE IS WANTED AND REASONABLE OFFERS WILL BE
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On the Hampshire and Surrey borders 2 miles from Hindhead, 5 from Haslemere, with fast trains to Waterloo 55 minutes.

COUNTRY COTTAGE HOME WITH MANY APPEALING FEATURES

Pretty drive approach lined with trees. 5 rooms plus kitchen/breakfast room, modern bathroom.

CENTRAL HEATING, MAIN ELECTRICITY, GAS AND WATER. GARAGE
Secluded gardens and small rough paddock **OVER AN ACRE**

PRICE ONLY £3,500

IN A PRETTY OXFORDSHIRE VILLAGE

Unspoilt setting 9 miles from Oxford and 7 from Thame.

FASCINATING 11TH-CENTURY COTTAGE RESIDENCE ENLARGED AND MODERNISED

Lovely main living room (24 ft. 6 in. by 14 ft. 6 in.), 4 bedrooms, modern kitchen and bathroom. Plenty of oak beams; all ceilings are well pitched.

Main water and electricity.

SITE AREA ½ ACRE BUT GARDEN UNMADE. FOR SALE AT £3,950

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Delightful situation bordering the Ashdown Forest.

One of the most attractive locations within 35 miles of London. Facing south overlooking the parklands of a large estate. Wonderful riding and walking facilities.

SMALL PERIOD HOME OF GREAT CHARM AND CHARACTER

In a peaceful old-world garden.

Drive approach

3 RECEPTION ROOMS,
5 BEDROOMS,
2 BATHROOMS

Good ceiling height.

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DOUBLE GARAGE

Secluded gardens formed from natural forest land, a feature being the large ornamental pond.

ABOUT 2½ ACRES. PRICE FREEHOLD £6,950

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A PROPERTY WE CAN RECOMMEND unreservedly BETWEEN FARNHAM AND ODIHAM

Hants/Surrey borders. On fringe of pretty old-world village.

Sited on rising ground with extremely nice view. House about 80 years old but more Georgian than Victorian in appearance.

3 reception, 5 good bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.

Ground-floor annexe of 3 rooms.

Partial central heating. Aga cooker. Agamatic boiler.

Main services.

DOUBLE GARAGE

Garden not big but very charming



Ochard and 2 paddocks.

£7,850 WITH 5½ ACRES

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ST. ALBANS, HERTS.

EXCELLENT PROPERTY FOR BUSINESSMAN IN ONE OF THE BEST POSITIONS IN THIS FAVOURITE DISTRICT

Just over 1 mile from the station; frequent train service to St. Pancras, 35 minutes.

PARTICULARLY ATTRACTIVE RESIDENCE PLANNED ON 2 FLOORS ONLY

Oak-panelled hall, 2 or 3 reception rooms, 5 or 6 bedrooms, bathroom. Central heating. Main services. Double garage. Charming secluded garden.

PRICE FREEHOLD £5,950. OPEN TO OFFER FOR QUICK SALE

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IDEAL FAMILY HOUSE IN FAVOURITE DISTRICT BETWEEN EPSOM AND LEATHERHEAD

Near commons and woods; 17 miles from London.

Newly decorated and ready to walk into.

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With sailing, wildfowling and other sporting facilities.
A MOST CHARMING COTTAGE-STYLE RESIDENCE parts of which date back over 300 years.



This much sought after property lies in a secluded position on the outskirts of this small coastal town.

All the principal rooms face south. Lounge hall, study, dining room, drawing room, good offices, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Garage.

The gardens and grounds extend in all to nearly 4 ACRES, part of which is laid out as a plantation.

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**BETWEEN
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In a quiet country lane, perfect rural setting amidst unspoilt surroundings. 2 miles station. One minute bus route.



DELIGHTFUL MODERNISED COTTAGE ideal for week-ends or retirement. 2 bed., 2 rec., modern kitchen and bathroom. Main electricity, gas, water; telephone. Garage. Garden loggia. Pretty garden about $\frac{1}{2}$ ACRE. **FREEHOLD £3,250.** An adjoining cottage in need of modernisation might also be purchased.

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**RURAL BERKSHIRE
IN THE ASCOT-WINDSOR-MAIDENHEAD TRIANGLE**

34 miles main line station. Good local bus service.



VIEW FROM HOUSE
A WELL-APPOINTED RESIDENCE. 7 bed. (2 with basins), 3 modern bathrooms, 3-4 rec. with polished floors, loggia. Compact domestic offices with tiled walls and Aga cooker. Central heating. Garage for 2. Stabling for 2. Excellent cottage, charming grounds and meadowland. **About 1½ Acres. FOR SALE FREEHOLD at moderate price.**

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Convenient situation on bus route. ¾ mile station. Close to Sunningdale and Wentworth Golf Courses.



A CHARMING ARCHITECT-DESIGNED RESIDENCE. 5-6 bed., 4 bath., 2-3 rec., staff annexe: 3 rooms, kitchen and bath. Central heating. All main services, 2 garages. **EXTREMELY ATTRACTIVE GARDEN.** About 1 ACRE. **PRICE £8,000.**

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A FIRST-CLASS
MODERN SEA-FRONT HOUSE

Situated in an ideal position overlooking private beach, with all principal rooms facing south and commanding extensive sea views. Charming garden, with hard tennis court. Excellent sporting facilities within easy reach.



3 RECEPTION ROOMS, ATTRACTIVE SUN ROOM, 5 BED AND DRESSING ROOMS, 3 BATHROOMS, STAFF ROOM, MODERN KITCHEN, DOUBLE GARAGE, etc.

Central heating throughout.

Beautifully appointed and in immaculate decorative condition.

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At the foot of the North Downs, entirely secluded, superb views and close to village.



This beautiful Modern House, 24 miles from London by road. Station with electric service 2 miles. 4 bedrooms (basins h. and c.), bathroom, lounge 25 ft. long, good dining room, hall, cloakroom. Good offices. Main services. Part central heating.

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40 minutes from London Bridge and Victoria.

Delightful Residence of character in a beautiful part with lovely views.

5 bedrooms, dressing room, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, 2 garages. About $\frac{1}{2}$ ACRES

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AN ARTIST'S COTTAGE

Amidst beautiful country, away from the madding crowd.

NEAR
TUNBRIDGE WELLS

17th-CENTURY
COTTAGE

2-3 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms.

$\frac{1}{4}$ ACRE matured garden.

GARAGE

£2,500 FREEHOLD

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LUXURY HOUSE OF CHARACTER

Choice position.
Reigate Dorking.
Extensive views.

3 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, maid's room. Oil-fired central heating. Minimum maintenance. Beautifully appointed. Garage for 2. Workshop.

Garden and paddock.

1½ ACRES

FREEHOLD

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THIS HISTORIC TUDOR HOUSE with its many associations with CROMWELL standing in a fine park approached by an avenue drive to a magnificent gateway entrance

ENTRANCE AND INNER HALLS,
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Walled kitchen garden with ranges of glass, suitable for market gardening.

Park, woodland and playing field with pavilion.

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BY OIL FIRED BOILERS.

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THE "NUNNERY" NOW CONVERTED
INTO A 6-BEDROOM FLAT.

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ENTRANCE LODGE, 5 COTTAGES,

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UP TO 59 ACRES IF REQUIRED

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Chelmsford main line station 7 miles, and within reasonable distance of Bishop's Stortford.

On the outskirts of a village, with unspoilt rural views.

PICTURESQUE COUNTRY COTTAGE



PRICE £3,250

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BATHROOM.

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Lovely gardens, well stocked with ornamental and fruit trees about 1 ACRE

EAST DEVON. CLOSE TO THE COAST

Between Axminster 4 miles and Honiton 6 miles.

ATTRACTIVE MODERN HOUSE WITH POSSESSION, together with a SOUND AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT, IN ALL 100 ACRES.

Modern Farmhouse with excellent south views.
Hall, 2 reception rooms,
Main electricity and water,
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Garage for 4, outbuildings,
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With Possession
Farm cottage of 2 reception rooms and 3 bedrooms.
Substantial buildings and
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CHARMING HOUSE WITH 7 LOCHS AND 4,000 ACRES

Set amidst superb scenery with fishing in lochs and sea.

Mixed shooting and stalking.

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30 acres arable land, 2,500 acres sheep farm, 1,500 acres deer forest.
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Fittings, furnishings, equipment and four boats at valuation.

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Within easy reach of London and the South Coast. 6 miles Horsham.

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WITH
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AN EXCEPTIONAL SMALL COUNTRY ESTATE OF GREAT CHARM AND CHARACTER

SPACIOUS HALL, 3 RECEPTION, MODEL DOMESTIC OFFICES, 4 PRINCIPAL AND 2 SECONDARY BEDROOMS, 3 BATHROOMS

MAIN ELECTRICITY AND WATER, CENTRAL HEATING

FIRST-CLASS RANGE OF OUTBUILDINGS with independent heating system, STABLING FOR 3, HARNESS ROOM, GARAGE FOR 4 CARS

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Matured Gardens and Grounds with woodland affording complete privacy, in all about

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CHARTERED AUCTIONEERS AND ESTATE AGENTSGLOUCESTER HOUSE,
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COTSWOLD VILLAGE*Between Lechlade and Burford.*AN ENCHANTING GABLED COTSWOLD
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of moderate proportions with a beautiful garden. 5 bedrooms (4 with baths), luxury bathroom, etc.

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*Centrally situated, but well secluded in unspoilt
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3 rec., garden room, domestic offices include servants' sitting room, 2 bath, and 7 bed, and dressing rooms, stores, greenhouses, etc.

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A fine set of buildings and 10 ACRES of level land.

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450 feet above sea level with glorious views.

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Warwick 11 miles. Banbury 11 miles.

A CHOICE
ARABLE AND STOCK RAISING FARM
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FARMHOUSE of 5 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, etc.

Main services. Modern drainage.

COTTAGE. CAPITAL FARM BUILDINGS

FREEHOLD
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Secluded position close to commandant; 10 minutes station. Esher 2½ miles.
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FOR WEST AND
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£4,500 WITH 3½ ACRES
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In rural surroundings, ½ mile from the unspoiled little Cotswold town, 6 miles Kemble Junction (fast London trains). In the Duke of Beaufort's Hunt. Cotswold stone built with stone tiled roof. Large lounge hall, 2 rec., cloakroom and w.c., kitchen with Ese etc., 5/6 bed, and 2 bathrooms. All main services. Complete central heating. Garages. 10 loose boxes etc. Ground's rooms. Very pretty gardens and 2 paddocks. Auctioneers, Cheltenham Office, as above.

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A BEAUTIFUL COMPACT GEORGIAN HOUSE



Facing south and containing 3 reception, cloakroom, 5 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. Main services. Central heating throughout. Superb condition. Detached cottage (5 rooms, bath, kitchen, etc.). Garage. £6,500

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Unspoiled country, overlooking parkland. Lovely view. Picturesque cottage, half-timbered, 2 good rec., compact kitchen, 4 bed. (2 large), modern bathroom and 2 w.c.s., good cupboards. Main e.l. and water. Garage. Very pretty garden. **ONE THIRD ACRE**

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UNIQUE BUILDING SITE, 2 ACRES

Superb views. Main services. Built yachtsman.

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WILTSHIRE—GLOUCESTERSHIRE BORDER

3½ miles from MALMESBURY and 9 from KEMBLE JUNCTION.

IN THE CENTRE OF THE BEAUFORT HUNT

LOVELY STONE BUILT COTSWOLD MANOR HOUSE

8 BEDROOMS, 4 BATHROOMS, 4 RECEPTION ROOMS

COMPACT DOMESTIC OFFICES

Main electricity and water.

Complete central heating. Modern drainage.

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15 LOOSE BOXES AND GRANARY
GARAGE SPACE FOR 4 CARS

4 SUPERIOR COTTAGES

ORCHARD PADDOCK AND PASTURE LAND

In all about

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FREEHOLD WITH POSSESSION

Except 2 cottages. (Let at economic rents).

AND AT
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Hungerford 1 mile. Newbury 8 miles. Reading 25 miles. London 61 miles.

A WELL-APPOINTED RESIDENCE

Fully modernised.

5 RECEPTION ROOMS, BALLROOM
7 PRINCIPAL BEDROOMS, DRESSING ROOMS,
NURSERY, BATHROOMS, 5 SECONDARY BED-
ROOMS

DOMESTIC OFFICES AND QUARTERS

Oil-fired central heating Main electricity.



ATTRACTIVE LAWNS, PLEASURE GARDENS
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2 SUPERIOR FARMHOUSES

23 COTTAGES

4 BLOCKS OF FARM BUILDINGS

All with main electricity and piped water from main or private supply.

EXCELLENT SHOOT

for which the Estate is noted.



Anvilles Farmhouse

A FINE RESIDENTIAL, AGRICULTURAL AND SPORTING ESTATE

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1,370 ACRES OF FARMLAND

275 ACRES OF WOODLANDS

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1,645 ACRES



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Lovely views Poole Harbour and sea. 7 miles Bournemouth.
Close links, shops and buses.



THIS CHOICE RESIDENCE planned on 2 floors only with hall, cloakroom, 3 recs., 6 bed. (4 b and c), 2 bathrooms, compact kitchen, staff sitting room. Double garage. Detached 5-roomed cottage. Easily kept garden and woodland.

3½ ACRES IN ALL. REASONABLE PRICE
Apply, Bournemouth Office.

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Lovely views over River Avon. Within walking distance of the town.



THIS DISTINCTIVE AND CHARMING NEW HOUSE planned for labour saving with hall, cloakroom through lounge, 2-3 bedrooms, well fitted bathroom and kitchen. Brick garage. Level garden.

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AVON VALLEY

Semi-rural site. Pretty views. Close to favourite market town.



ARCHITECT-DESIGNED MODERN COTTAGE with hall, cloakroom, fine lounge/dining room (22 ft. 6 ins. by 20 ft.), study or 3rd bedroom, 2 double bedrooms, well equipped bathroom and kitchen. Brick garage. Level garden.

PRICE £4,500 FREEHOLD OR OFFER

BRACKETT & SONS

27-29, HIGH STREET, TUNBRIDGE WELLS. Tel. 1153—2 lines.

£7,950 EAST SUSSEX, easy reach Tunbridge Wells. Just in the market. Modern Detached Residence in excellent order, commanding magnificent views extending over the South Downs and Beachy Head. 2 recs., sun lounge, cloakroom, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, etc. Central heating, laundry basins. Garage. Attractively displayed gardens of 1½ ACRES. POSSESSION. FREEHOLD

Fo. 42789.

£5,950 ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS with fine views across open farm land. A well-appointed modern Detached House, exceptionally well planned, 2 receptions, study, 4 bedrooms, bathroom and domestic offices. Garage. Pleasant garden very well stocked. Ornamental pond. POSSESSION. FREEHOLD

Fo. 42605.

£8,500 IN A PRIVATE PARK IN TUNBRIDGE WELLS. A modern Character House in excellent condition, secluded and facing south. 3 receptions, 4 principal bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, staff accommodation. Double garage. 2 acres of garden and grounds with a strip of woodland. Central heating. POSSESSION. FREEHOLD

Fo. 42605.

£6,750 NEAR LANGTON RIDGE, 2 miles from Tunbridge Wells. An extremely well-built Residence with about 1 acre of garden. 3 receptions, cloakroom, 7 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and domestic offices. Central heating. Garage. POSSESSION. FREEHOLD

Fo. 42315.

MOLDRAM, CLARKE & EDLEY

Chartered Surveyors.
155/6, HIGH STREET, GUILDFORD. And at Woking

WOKING

Occupying a charming position in a sylvan setting, being within convenient reach of the town centre.

AN ATTRACTIVE DETACHED MODERN WELL-BUILT RESIDENCE Hall, cloakroom, 2 fine reception rooms (partitioned), 4 bedrooms, bathroom, built-in garage. Well-maintained garden of one-third acre. All main services.

£2,850 FREEHOLD

Woking Office, Tel. 3419.

GUILDFORD

In a quiet and convenient residential road on high ground backing on to Merrow Downs. **A WELL-PLANNED AND EQUIPPED POST-WAR DETACHED HOUSE** comprising: Entrance hall, cloakroom, lounge 18 ft. 6 ins. by 12 ft., dining-room, large well-fitted kitchen, 4 bedrooms, tiled bathroom, separate w.c. Garage. Pleasant garden. All main services. £5,500 FREEHOLD

Guildford Office, Tel. 67281.

BRAMLEY, NEAR GUILDFORD

In this sought-after village directly adjoining Bramley golf course. **A CHARMING MODERN DETACHED RESIDENCE** in perfect decorative condition affording the following accommodation on 2 floors only: Spacious hall, cloakroom, 3 fine reception rooms, each with polished oak block floors. Well-appointed kitchen, 6 bedrooms, bathroom. Central heating. Main services.

£6,950 FREEHOLD

Guildford Office, Tel. 62806.

ESHER
WALTON-ON-THAMES
WEYBRIDGE
CHOBHAM

MANN & CO. AND EWBANK & CO.

WEST SURREY

CORHAM
GUILDFORD
WORKING
WEST BYFLEET

ARCHITECT

PLANNED MODERN HOUSE

In delightful quiet position, under one mile Woking town (Waterloo 27 minutes).



EXCELLENT STATE OF REPAIR. Columbian pine floors throughout. 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, hall, cloakroom, 3 recep. rooms, kitchen with ideal garage. Easily maintained garden **ABOUT 1/2 ACRE.** All main services.

£5,950 FREEHOLD

Woking Office: 3 High Street, Tel. 3800-3.

**IN CENTRE OF
LOVELY ASHLEY PARK**

POST-WAR Architect-Designed RESIDENCE



Complete central heating; oak floors. 3 double bedrooms (ample cupboards), luxury bathroom, through lounge, dining recess, superbly fitted kitchen, built-in Fridge, etc., electric Immersion heater. Garage for 2.

ABOUT 1 ACRE. £5,750 FREEHOLD

Sole Agents: Walton Office: 38, High Street, Tel. 2331-2.

**EXQUISITE
MODERN DETACHED RESIDENCE**

Superb position overlooking river on exclusive private estate, near shops, station.



In part-walled garden **1/2 ACRE.** 4 bedrooms (b. and c.), 2 bathrooms, hall, cloakroom, lounge, dining room, breakfast room (Tranico boiler), kitchen (Aga cooker), laundry, double garage. Large greenhouse. Central heating. First class condition.

£7,500 FREEHOLD

Cobham Office: EWBANK & CO., 19, High Street, Tel. 47-

**ABSOLUTELY SUPERLATIVE CONDITION
THROUGHOUT, ON HIGH GROUND
PYRFORD**



3 bedrooms, maid's room, bathroom, sep. w.c., lounge hall, cloakroom, 3 recep. rooms, all with parquet floors, superbly fitted modern kitchen. Central heating. All main services. 2 garages. Secluded **1 ACRE** garden.

£7,750 FREEHOLD

Strongly recommended by Sole Agents.

West Byfleet Office: Station Approach, Tel. 3288-9.

GUILDFORD

In superb position at Merrow, full south aspect, overlooking golf course, downs. Buses pass gate, few minutes' walk church, village, shops. 2 miles Guildford (Waterloo 30 minutes).



5 bedrooms (2 with basins), bathroom, 3 recep. rooms, delightful south loggia, kitchen, maid's sitting-room, hall, cloakroom, detached double garage. Central heating. All main services.

1 ACRE. Highly recommended by SOLE AGENTS
Guildford Office: 22, Epsom Road, Tel. 62911-2.

IN PRETTY SETTING, WEYBRIDGE

Close to shops, bus route.

**WELL APPOINTED
MODERN DETACHED CHALET BUNGALOW**



Snowcem elevations, leaded lights, good cupboard space. 3 bedrooms, bathroom, sep. w.c., 2 recep. rooms, well fitted kitchen, garage. Secluded garden.

£5,000 FREEHOLD

Weybridge Office: EWBANK & CO., 7, Baker Street, Tel. 2323-5.

Tel.
GERRARDS CROSS
2994 and 2510

HETHERINGTON & SECRETT, F.A.I.

ESTATE OFFICES: GERRARDS CROSS, BEACONSFIELD, AND AT EALING, LONDON, W.5.

GERRARDS CROSS, BUCKS
In parklike surroundings.



THIS FINE QUALITY MODERN HOUSE is in impeccable order and adjoins permanent open space. 2 reception rooms, cloaks., model kitchen (Janitor), 5 bedrooms (all with cupboards and 3 with basins), tiled bathroom. Garage in delightful **1/2 ACRE** garden. **VACANT
POSSESSION. £8,250 FREEHOLD**

Full particulars of the above may be obtained from the Agents: Messrs. HETHERINGTON AND SECRETT, F.A.I.

FULMER, BUCKS

IN 5 ACRES

A FINE COUNTRY HOUSE

Skilfully converted since the war and now forming a charming easily run home in first-class order.

Originally part of a larger property, it offers 3 GRACIOUS RECEPTION ROOMS, BEAUTIFULLY EQUIPPED KITCHEN and 2 BATHROOMS, 5 BEDROOMS.

Fine brick outbuildings including Double Garage. Main services and central heating. (Janitor boiler.)

Lovely low upkeep grounds of 5 acres with SWIMMING POOL (62 ft. by 16 ft.), shady lawns, tennis court, orchard

and LARGE PADDOCK. R.V. £125.

£7,250 FREEHOLD

PENN, BUCKS

On high ground with excellent view over wooded countryside



A FINE MODERN HOUSE built in 1933 and in excellent condition. Contains square hall, cloakroom, 2 reception, 5 bedrooms, kitchen and bathroom, 2 garages. Main services. Central heating. Charming grounds of **2 ACRES**.
PRICE £6,750 FREEHOLD. Immediate Possession.

CREWS & SON
4 & 6 ROLLE STREET, EXMOUTH. Tel. 3015/4888.

EXMOUTH, SOUTH DEVON

Charming well designed modern detached residence
In excellent condition throughout.



FOR SALE—VACANT POSSESSION

For full particulars, apply, Sole Agents: CREWS & SON, 4 and 6, Rolle Street, Exmouth (Tel. 3015-4888).

OSMOND E. GRIFFITHS

Chartered Auctioneers and Estate Agents
NEWMARKET. Tel. 2055

NEWMARKET

DISTANT 5 MILES

CAMBRIDGE 10 MILES

On the outskirts of the attractive village of Brinkley.

HALL, LOUNGE, DINING ROOM,
3 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM,
KITCHENS,
GARAGE

ATTRACTIVE SMALL GARDEN

All tastefully modernised.

MAIN ELECTRICITY & WATER

VACANT POSSESSION

£2,750

OSMOND E. GRIFFITHS, Chartered Auctioneers and Estate Agents, Newmarket (Tel. 2055).



T. BANNISTER & CO.

Chartered Surveyors, MARKET PLACE, HAYWARDS HEATH, SUSSEX. Tel. 607

By Order of Executors.

CUCKFIELD

Haywards Heath Station (London 47 mins.) 3 miles.

SLOUGH GREEN HOUSE

AUCTION 31st JULY, 1956

Full particulars: T. BANNISTER & CO.

Modern Residence of Character. Unspoilt views to South Downs.

5 BEDROOMS
2 BATHROOMS
CLOAK ROOM
2 LARGE RECEPTION ROOMS
GARAGE
AND LOVELY GARDEN OF 1 ACRE

By Order of the Owner.

GROOMBRIDGE

TUNBRIDGE WELLS 4 miles.

XVth CENTURY FARMHOUSE

Well restored and thoroughly modernised.

5 BEDROOMS
2 DRESSING ROOMS
2 BATHROOMS
3 FINE RECEPTION ROOMS, MODERN KITCHEN
Part central heating.
GARAGE, ETC.
Attested Stock Farm of 62 acres (25 let).

PRICE £12,000 FREEHOLD

Illustrated particulars, from the Sole Agents: T. BANNISTER & CO., Haywards Heath or JOHN D. WOOD & CO., 23, Berkeley Square, London, W.I.

Established 1759

DREWEATT, WATSON & BARTON

CHARTERED AUCTIONEERS AND ESTATE AGENTS

Tel.
Newbury 1 and 858**HANTS—BERKS BORDER**

Between Basingstoke and Newbury.

**COTTAGE RESIDENCE WITH 6½ ACRES**

Country position, most picturesque and in impeccable order. 3 bedrooms, bathroom, good living room, dining-kitchen. Main services. Garage, boxes, etc. Useful pasture. £4,950, OPEN TO OFFER

NEWBURY 4½ MILES

Good London train service.

**Business Man's Country Week-End Cottage**

Expensively modernised. 3 bedrooms, fitted basting, bathroom, 2 sitting rooms. Excellent fitted kitchen. Garage. Main services. Grounds of 1 ACRE. Delightful rural outlook. £3,400

Between NEWBURY & READING

High ground. Bus service passes door.

**A NEWLY RENOVATED COUNTRY HOUSE**

of the right size with large rooms. Fully modernised and redecorated. 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 sitting rooms, kitchen. Main services. Central heating. Garage. Grounds with walled garden. £4,250

PHILIP GEEN & PARTNERS

F.A.I.

SURVEYORS & AUCTIONEERS

DESIRE TO ACQUIRE FOR CLIENTS

THE LARGER TYPE OF HOUSE

SUITABLE FOR CONVERSION

AMPLE FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR MORTGAGES

ON RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES

6, HALF MOON STREET, PICCADILLY, W.I. GRO. 4726-8

ESSEX BEAUTY SPOT

ENTIRELY SURROUNDED BY GREEN BELT

"ALGARS", DEBDEN GREEN, NEAR LOUGHTON

30 minutes from City.



FREEHOLD £8,500. Rateable value £90 p.a.

Mortgage can be arranged.

TELEPHONE: DAY, ROYAL 7126; EVENING, LOUGHTON 5304

CONVERTED FARMHOUSE FULLY MODERNISED

Small, warm and cosy. Entrance lounge hall, 3 recps., billiards room, 5 beds, (basins h. and c.). Central heating.

Main services.

Garage.

Garden 1½ ACRES

Tennis court.

AGRICULTURAL LAND COMMISSION

TO LET BY TENDER from September 2, 1956, on a full agricultural tenancy.

RED HOUSE AND HOME FARM, CROSSCLIFFE LANGDALE END, NEAR SCARBOROUGH

A desirable gentleman's stone-built modernised residence together with a stock-rearing and sheep farm of 121 acres, or thereabouts, with moorland grazing rights for 200 ewes and 100 gimmer hoggs which may be taken over at valuation. The property is situated in unspoilt country about 11 miles from Scarborough.

RED HOUSE includes lounge, hall, library, dining room, 2 sitting rooms, gun room, kitchen, w.c., etc., 5 main bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 servants' rooms.

HOME FARM adjoining RED HOUSE; kitchen, living room, 3 bedrooms, wash house, etc.

BUILDINGS: Barn, granary, byre 10, stable 4, garage, small covered yard, implement shed, engine room.

Private water supply and electric light plant.

THE PROPERTY IS OFFERED AS A WHOLE but offers of rent will be considered for (a) the Red House with sporting over about 700 acres and lake fishing or (b) for the Home Farm.

For further particulars and permit to view, apply to:

**THE LAND COMMISSIONER, MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE,
FISHERIES AND FOOD,
MILL MOUNT HOUSE, THE MOUNT, YORK**

THE IDEAL 16th-CENTURY COTTAGE FOR WEEKENDS OR RETIREMENT

CONVERSION JUST COMPLETED TO SPECIFICATION FROM A PAIR OF BRICK AND TILE COTTAGES

Facing S.W. on Newsham village green, 4 miles east of Basingstoke and 40 miles by road from London. Hook station 1½ miles.

Bus service passes green. Telephone applied for. Small garden.

Accommodation: 2 sitting rooms, 1 utility room, 2 double bedrooms (1 b. and c.), 1 single room, bathroom and kitchen with fitted units.

Main water, electricity and modern drainage all newly installed to Council's approval

Power points are fitted throughout, also light brackets and pelmets.

Rates await reassessment.



READY FOR IMMEDIATE OCCUPATION
Freehold with grazing rights on the green.

PRICE £3,950
Box No. 106, "COUNTRY LIFE," Tower House, Southampton Street, London, W.C.2.

BLAKE & CO.

103, MOUNT STREET, LONDON, W.I. GROSVENOR 3761 (6 lines).

By Order of the Executors of Effie, Lady Selsdon, deceased.

BLANCHARD HOUSE, ST. PETER, JERSEY

AN
EXCEEDINGLY ATTRACTIVE
MEDIUM SIZED GEORGIAN
HOUSE
in perfect condition, the subject of
considerable expenditure.



MODERN OIL-FIRED

CENTRAL HEATING

MAIN ELECTRICITY

ALL OTHER MODERN CONVENiences

THE GARDENS, WHICH EXTEND IN ALL TO ABOUT 2 ACRES, ARE FORMALLY LAID OUT WITH LAWNS,
FLOWERING SHRUBS, FRUIT TREES, ETC.

THE ACCOMMODATION IS
ARRANGED ON TWO FLOORS ONLY

5 BEDROOMS, 3 BATHROOMS,
3 RECEPTION ROOMS,
MODERN DOMESTIC OFFICES.

BUTLER'S COTTAGE
with 4 rooms, kitchen and bathroom.

GARAGE



Full particulars and photographs from the Sole Agents: BLAKE & CO., 103, Mount Street, London, W.I. GROSVENOR 3761 (6 lines).

ESTATE OFFICES,
SUNNINGHILL, ASCOT, BERKSHIRE

By Order of Mrs. Gladys Penfold Hyland.
OLD TUDOR PLACE,
RISSELEY, NR. SWALLOWFIELD, BERKS
Only 6 miles from Reading, in country surroundings.



A lovely TUDOR FARM-HOUSE, 7 bedrooms and 2 attic rooms, 4 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms. Good domestic offices. Central heating. Main services. Double garage. **3½ ACRES. FREEHOLD FOR SALE**
by private treaty or by Auction on August 8.
For full particulars apply Sole Agent, as above.

MRS. N. C. TUFNELL

Ascot 1666
(5 lines)

ASCOT, BERKSHIRE
Convenient for station, shops and daily travel to London.

AN ESTATE OF 16 NEW HOUSES
in the process of erection in a lovely
woodland setting

Type 1, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms.
Cloakroom. Modern kitchen.
Central heating. Main services.
2½ ACRE. FREEHOLD £3,900

Type 2, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception. Cloakroom.
Modern kitchen.
Central heating. Main services.
2½ ACRE. £3,450
Apply Sole Agents, as above.

By order of Miss Ramsey Parker.
OAKLEA
BRACKNELL, BERKSHIRE
Convenient for station, shops and omnibus route.



A well-built COUNTRY HOUSE, 6 bedrooms and 2 dressing rooms (2 with b. and c. basins), 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, usual domestic offices. Central heating. Main services. Garage. **½ ACRE
FREEHOLD. A BARGAIN AT £6,900**
Apply Sole Agent, as above.

WEST SUSSEX—5 Minutes—MIDHURST

SECLUDED BUT NOT ISOLATED—FACING SOUTH DOWNS

A REALLY CHOICE GEM



FREEHOLD £6,500

For further particulars please write:

BOX NO. 57, "COUNTRY LIFE," TOWER HOUSE, SOUTHAMPTON
STREET, LONDON, W.C.2.

VERY PRIVATELY
FOR SALE
5-7 spacious rooms, cloakroom (b. and c.), w.c.,
2 fitted bathrooms.
Unusual in many pleasing
ways.
BRICK GARAGE
for 2 large cars.
Mains electricity, water and
drainage.
Kitchen completely fitted
with modern cupboards,
etc., etc.
Compact garden in park-
land setting.

Chartered Surveyors
and Auctioneers.

HOLLIS & WEBB **3 PARK PLACE,
LEEDS, 1**
TO LET ON LEASE BY TENDER FOR SEVEN YEARS
HAREWOOD, WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE
Between Leeds and Harrogate.
BY DIRECTION OF LASCELLES ESTATES, LTD.

THE WELL-KNOWN
T.T. ATTESTED
DAIRY AND ARABLE
FARM

Known as

THE VILLAGE
FARM, HAREWOOD

together with
the charming residence,
the Estate House fronting
The Avenue, Harewood, a
very good flat, and a
cottage in the village.



The Estate House
TOTAL AREA APPROXIMATELY 152,023 ACRES

For full particulars together with plans, form of tender, and inspection of the Lease,
apply to: HOLLIS & WEBB, Chartered Surveyors, 3, Park Place, Leeds, 1, or
NEVILLE A. USHER, Chartered Land Agent, The Estate Office, Harewood.

MAIDENHEAD
BUNNINGDALE

ON HAWTHORN HILL

Maidenhead 5 miles, Windsor and Ascot 6 miles.



Just completed, in the style of a Tudor cottage. Fine old timbering. 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms (one 25 ft. long), American-style kitchen. Central heating. Detached garage. Partly walled gardens with scope for personal design.

For sale at Auction July 28 (unless sold before).

Sole Agents: GIDDY & GIDDY, Maidenhead (Tel. 53).

GIDDY & GIDDY

NEAR MAIDENHEAD

Facing south on the edge of open country.



Constructed in the Georgian style. 3 double bedrooms (stairs), tiled bathroom, 2 reception rooms, tiled cloakroom, light kitchen. Partial central heating. Garage and outbuildings. Secluded gardens, orchard and paddock.

1 ACRE.

FOR SALE AT AUCTION unless sold before.
Sole Agents: GIDDY & GIDDY, Station Approach, Maidenhead (Tel. 53).

WINDSOR, SLOUGH
GERRARDS CROSSCOMMANDING
MAGNIFICENT VIEWS

Delightfully situated on the hills behind Marlow.



A uniquely planned small house with spacious reception rooms, 22 ft. by 17 ft. 6 ins., latest American style kitchen, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 reception rooms. Garage. Easy gardens of **1 ACRE**.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD.

GIDDY & GIDDY, Station Approach, Maidenhead (Tel. 53).

ASHFORD
(Tel. 25-26)HAWKHURST
(Tel. 3181-2)

GEERING & COLYER

TUNBRIDGE WELLS (996-7), KENT, RYE (3155-6), HEATHFIELD (533-4), AND WADHURST (393), SUSSEX

IN BEAUTIFUL EAST SUSSEX

Within easy reach of Robertsbridge and Etchingham main line stations.

ONE OF THE MOST ATTRACTIVE PROPERTIES IN THE COUNTY



FREEHOLD £11,750 WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Substantial Capital Expenditure Tax allowance.

Apply Rye, or Joint Sole Agents: Messrs. WOODCOCKS, 30, St. George's Street, Hanover Square, London W.I.

NOCK, DEIGHTON & SON LIMITED

52 WHITBURN STREET, BRIDGNORTH. Tel. 2203 & 4.

WITH VACANT POSSESSION

BRIDGNORTH—SHROPSHIRE

In the beautiful SEVERN VALLEY,
A FREEHOLD RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER, KNOWN AS
"THE CROFT," BRIDGNORTH



For Sale by Auction by NOCK, DEIGHTON & SON LTD., at the SWAN HOTEL, BRIDGNORTH, on MONDAY, JULY 30, 1956, at 4 p.m.
Particulars and permits from the Solicitors, R. J. R. HASLEWOOD & Co., 1 Bank Street, Bridgnorth (Tel. 2157), or the Auctioneers, 52, Whitburn Street, Bridgnorth (Tel. 2203 and 4).

PERRYS

Chartered Auctioneers and Estate Agents.
56, PRESTON STREET, BRIGHTON. Tel. 23713. Estd. 1894

WEST SUSSEX

On the outskirts of old market town, 10 miles Brighton.

ATTRACTIVE SMALL ESTATE WITH BEAUTIFUL GEORGIAN-STYLE
RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER

THE HOUSE stands in some 6 acres of lovely gardens with lodge entrance. 8 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, billiards room. Excellent domestic offices.

GARAGE FOR 3 CARS. MAIN SERVICES

£11,950, OFFERS INVITED

HENFIELD, SUSSEX

10 miles Brighton.

COTTAGE-STYLE HOUSE STANDING IN ABOUT 2 ACRES

In centre of village, yet quiet and secluded. Close shops, church and station.

3 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS
GARAGE, GREENHOUSES, SMALL ORCHARD. MAIN SERVICES

£4,850, OFFERS INVITED, OR FOR AUCTION JULY 30

Further particulars from Sole Agents.

OUTSKIRTS OF LOVELY BIDDENDEN

In an excellent position.

GENUINE T.T. AND ATTESTED DAIRY FARM (ALSO SUITABLE
STOCK)

Modernised
17th-century
Farmhouse.

4-6 bed., 2 bath., 3 sitt.,
kitchen with Aga, etc.

COTTAGE

AMPLE BUILDINGS inc.
model cowstall, granary
yard, etc.

80 ACRES

(65 arable and pasture,
15 woodland).

Main services.

London 100 minutes.



FREEHOLD £8,950 WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Apply Ashford.

SUTCLIFFE, SON & PARTNERS

Estate Agents, Auctioneers, Surveyors.
20, LONDON ROAD, BROMLEY, KENT.
RAVensbourne 0185, 0186, 0187.

BETWIXT BROMLEY AND BECKENHAM

PERIOD

DETACHED DOUBLE-FRONTED COTTAGE

15th-century, completely modernised, yet retaining old-world charm.

10 miles London (25 minutes by road or rail).

3 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS

BRIGHT MODERN KITCHEN

VERY PLEASANT GARDEN. LARGE GARAGE

£5,950. 70% mortgage arranged

Sole Agents: SUTCLIFFE, SON & PARTNERS, 20, London Road, Bromley, Kent.
RAVensbourne 0185.

OPEN SUNDAYS

REBBEC BROS.

COUNTY GATES, WESTBOURNE, BOURNEMOUTH
Tel. Westbourne 64241

UNIQUE CHALET RESIDENCE

BOURNEMOUTH. Close Branksome Chine, and seafront. Most attractive elevation. Secluded position. 2 bed., bath., lounge, dining/kitchen (littered modern sink unit). Beautifully decorated. Over $\frac{1}{2}$ ACRE garden.

IDEAL PERMANENT RESIDENCE OR HOLIDAY USE

BOURNEMOUTH

BRANKSOME PARK. NEAR THE SEA. Very attractive detached Bungalow Residence, erected 1954. 3 bed., half-tiled bathroom, large lounge, dining room, well-fitted kitchen.

CENTRAL HEATING. BRICK GARAGE

$\frac{3}{4}$ ACRE of garden in natural state of pines and heather.

BOURNEMOUTH

BRANKSOME PARK. COMMODIOUS FAMILY RESIDENCE. Quiet residential area. Easy reach sea and shops. 7 bedrooms, bathroom, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception, kitchen, etc. 2 GARAGES. 1 ACRE GARDEN

FOR SALE BY AUCTION SHORTLY

Illustrated particulars available.

PROPERTIES IN TOWN

WILLIAM WILLETT LTD.

SLOANE SQUARE, S.W.1. SLOANE 8141-6.

CHELSEA

FLOOD ST. CHARMING MODERN NON-BASEMENT HOUSE, partial central heating, hardwood floors, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, etc. GARAGE. Lease 75 years. G.R. £19 p.a. **PRICE £10,000.**

THE VALE. ATTRACTIVE SMALL FAMILY HOUSE in extremely quiet situation. FULL CENTRAL HEATING. Garden, 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, etc. Lease 47 years. G.R. £19 7s. p.a. **PRICE £7,950.**

BELGRAVIA

CAROLINE TERRACE. EXCELLENT SMALL HOUSE in perfect order. 2 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms (1 double), etc. Attractive walled garden. Lease 30 years. G.R. £20 p.a. **PRICE £5,250.**

KNIGHTSBRIDGE

YEOMANS ROW. POST-WAR-BUILT NON-BASEMENT HOUSE and garage. FULL CENTRAL HEATING. Newly decorated. 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, etc. Lease 98 years. G.R. £90 p.a. **PRICE £10,800.**

E. A. THOMAS

1/2 HANOVER STREET, W.1. Tel. MAYfair 3940

NEW FREEHOLD HOUSES WITH GARAGES

KENSINGTON, W.8

TWO ONLY REMAINING. NEWLY BUILT, ARCHITECT-DESIGNED HOUSES

Just off Victoria Road, W.8 (close Kens. Gdns.). Non-basement.

2, 3 OR 4 BEDROOMS, CENTRAL HEATING, ETC.

PRICE £7,950

PORCHESTER TERRACE, BAYSWATER, W.2.

A REGENCY-STYLE FAMILY HOUSE OF GREAT CHARM AND CHARACTER

Close Lancaster Gate and Kensington Gdns.

In impeccable dec. condition. Fully centrally heated. Parquet flooring, etc. 5 bedrooms, 3 rec. rooms (one 35 ft. long).

WELL-LAI'D-OUT GARDEN, 2-CAR GARAGE, ETC.

LEASEHOLD. PRICE £7,500

For further details, apply: E. A. THOMAS, 1/2 Hanover Street, W.1
(Tel. MAYfair 3940).

FOR SALE

AUCTIONS

See also Auction column on page 170

BOURNEMOUTH

An attractive modern property.
"OAKS," LEICESTER ROAD,
in residential Branksome Park. Facing
wooded chine gardens and just over mile
from sea. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge
hall, 2 rec. rooms, cloakroom, fully tiled
kitchen. Double garage. Grounds about
1 acre, mainly matured state, inexpensive
to maintain. Auction sale, August 16.

Illustrated particulars,

F. & X. & SONS

52, Poole Road, Westbourne, Bournemouth.
COCKHAYNES, SILVERTON.

Delightful Detached Country Residence of
character, 8 miles Exeter. 3 reception, cloaks,
5 bedrooms, etc. Garage, outbuildings, 4
acre enclosed grounds. Main services.
For sale by auction, July 27, 1956. Details:
CHERRY & CHERRY LTD.

14, Southerton West, Exeter.

THE HOLLIES,

HIGH STREET, POTTERS BAR, MIDDLESEX

FOR OCCUPATION AND INVESTMENT

This valuable freehold residential property comprising commodious residence, garage, extensive outbuildings and grounds over 1 acre in extent, 172 ft. frontage to High Street. Outbuildings at present let on monthly tenancies produce total net income of £955 per annum. Residence suitable for occupation or conversion. Site at side suitable erection house or block of flats. Auction Sale, July 26, unless sold to private treaty.
Particulars of

WHITE, SON & PILL

Surveyors, 58, High Street, Potters Bar, 13-15, High Street, Barnet. Tel. Potters Bar 3888 and BARnet 0086.

OVERSEAS

For Sale

120 ACRES, lovely log Lodge in Vermont, 7 rooms, 2 fireplaces, 3 bathrooms, double garage, 2-roomed cottage, mile fishing, beautiful views. £15,000.—Box 84.

BUSINESSES AND HOTELS

For Sale

OLD GEORGE AND DRAGON COMBE MARTIN, N. DEVON
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ESSEX BEAUTY SPOT

Have you seen illustrated advertisement on Supplement 29 of this issue, of "ALGARS," Duden Green, near Loughton.

ESSEX Cottage enormously enlarged, part XVII century rest completed last year, 5 minutes' saunter local line connecting Witham (near London). The old look outside, new inside. 3-4 beds., 2 baths., radiators, lots of sun, sheltered garden, swimming pool, small paddock. 5 miles sailing. Freehold vacant possession £4,100.—Box 115.

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FOR SALE CONTINUED ON PAGE 172

CLASSIFIED ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED ON OTHER PAGES

Page 172—Property.

Pages 170-172—All other classified advertisements.

RATES AND ADDRESS FOR ADVERTISEMENTS ON PAGE 170

A TWOFOOLD JOB...



English Electric, by virtue of the experience gained in building locomotives for overseas, is well equipped to meet any demands made on it under the British Railways Modernization Scheme. Already some hundreds of electric and diesel-electric locomotives built or powered by ENGLISH ELECTRIC are busy on Britain's railways.

How The English Electric Company is working for Britain at home and abroad

Britain is busy now, more prosperous than for decades past. Full employment, active industries, advances in science and technology, plenty of opportunities both for firms and for individuals... this is progress to be proud of. The challenge—the need—is to maintain it. All depends on production—and exports.

From 1949 to 1955, our total industrial output rose by 27%, and the value of our vital exports by 58%. But still higher production, still more export activity, are needed to ensure still better living for Britain. In both these ways, ENGLISH ELECTRIC is playing its full part.

At home, this company helps to supply the generators, transformers, switchgear and other plant needed for Britain's expanding power generation programme; it also makes the electrical equipment by which our industries use this energy for production—production not only for home demand but for developing export markets.

In addition it is itself a vigorous and successful exporter; about half the Group's business is overseas, earning foreign currency for Britain.

With the world-wide experience of its engineers and technicians, backed by great manufacturing resources and advanced research, ENGLISH ELECTRIC is hard at work, making an important twofold contribution to Britain's economic progress.

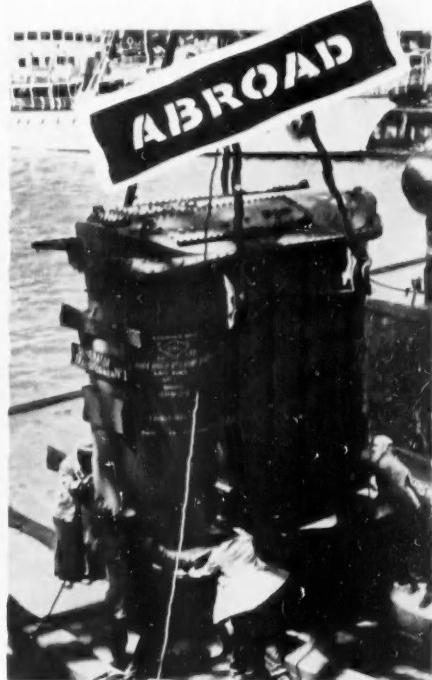
Railways in 30 countries have been supplied with ENGLISH ELECTRIC equipment, including diesel-electric and electric locomotives of many types, and equipment for complete railway electrification. The 1,500-h.p. diesel-electric locomotive hauling the "Westlander" is one of ten recently supplied to Queensland Government Railways.



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To Young Men and Their Parents

To any boy or young man considering a career in science or engineering, ENGLISH ELECTRIC offers almost unlimited opportunities—first-class training, and a choice of rewarding jobs at home or abroad. For details, please write to Mr. G. S. Bosworth, Central Personnel Department E.4.



Throughout the world, ENGLISH ELECTRIC is helping to raise the standard of living in the most practical way—by developing resources of electric power, and improving the means of its distribution and utilization. At the same time its flourishing export trade is earning hard and soft currency for Britain. (Above) This ENGLISH ELECTRIC 36-MVA generator transformer is shown being unloaded at Cape Town Docks, on its way to the Salt River 'B' Power Station in the Union of South Africa.

'ENGLISH ELECTRIC'

bringing you better living



The English Electric Company Limited, Queens House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2

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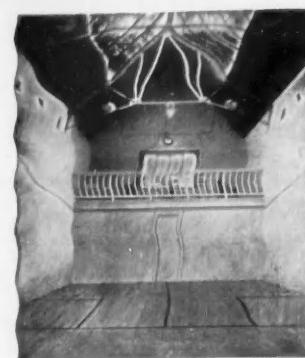
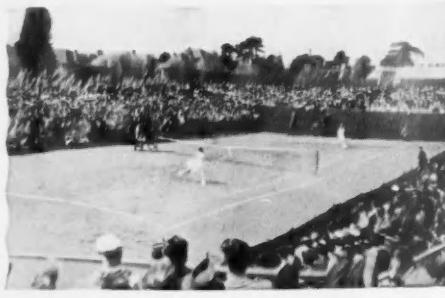
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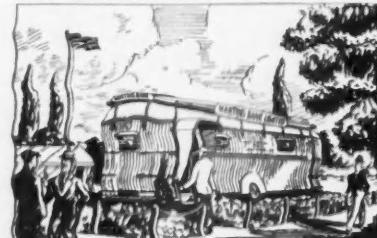


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Reversible shooting jacket in Harris tweed and proofed cotton gabardine, providing a practical garment for all weathers. In Lovat, plain or herringbone patterned. Sizes 38" to 44". £14. 14. 0.
Grenfell cloth hat £2. 15. 6.
Shooting mitt in lambskin £1. 8. 6.

(Right)

Shooting jacket in double texture Grenfell cloth with reinforced shoulders, two bellows pockets, one breast pocket all with flaps and buttons. Storm proof cuffs and concealed front zip for full protection. Special hare pocket with detachable plastic lining. Sizes 36" to 44" £12. 17. 6.
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COUNTRY LIFE

Vol. CXX No. 3105

JULY 19, 1956



Bassano

MISS ELIZABETH ANN BEHARRELL

Miss Elizabeth Ann Beharrell, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Beharrell, of Kingston House, Ennismore-gardens, S.W.7, is to be married shortly to Mr. E. Gross, of Dundalk, Ireland, youngest son of the late Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Gross, of Colwyn Bay, Denbighshire

COUNTRY LIFE

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COVENT GARDEN
W.C.2
Telephone, Covent Garden 2692
Telegrams, Country Life, London

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THE ATOM AND THE GARDENER

ATOMIC energy is steadily increasing its effects on our daily lives, and not the least important of its prospective applications are in agriculture and horticulture. One of the latest lines of research, reported recently from America, is the atomic irradiation of unripe fruit and vegetables which, it is said, instantly brings them to maturity. Perhaps we cannot altogether believe in the word "instantly," but it seems plausible that radiation could accelerate ripening to a considerable degree. The value of this development, of course, lies in the fact that fruit transported unripe is subject to much less damage than ripe fruit. It is suggested that the radiation equipment needed would be small and simple enough to go into an ordinary kitchen, though presumably larger ripening apparatus, like the existing banana ripening rooms at Covent Garden, would be installed at centralised markets. Many people will, no doubt, question whether such artificial ripening would not impair the food value of the produce, and clearly research into this side of the problem would be necessary. However, the work which has already been carried out on the nutritive value of fruits shows little appreciable difference in vitamin content between fruit picked when ripe and fruit ripened by various means off the tree.

Other agricultural or horticultural uses of radioactivity are more definite, if, indeed, they have not already produced worthwhile results. Perhaps the most spectacular possibilities are those of creating new plants. The use of X-rays for this purpose was in fact begun as long ago as 1927; atomic radiation is much easier to use and will be much cheaper. In nature perhaps one plant in a million mutates or "sports"; under atomic irradiation the rate can be increased to one in a hundred or even one in fifty. Mutants provide true-breeding variations which may be valuable or harmful. Even if one mutant in a thousand is of value, the process will be amply worthwhile, and the speed of breeding programmes vastly increased. Such mutations can be created in individual plants or in seeds.

In general, new mutants cannot be used directly, but they provide a wealth of material for the plant breeder, already so expert in juggling with useful characters. By skilful cross-breeding he can recombine characters almost as he wishes. Already higher-yielding cereals and ground-nuts (the latter producing 30 per cent. more nuts than their "parents") have been produced; in flower cultivation doubling and new colours seem to result readily, as well as changes in flower and leaf form; and all sorts of changes—some perhaps more weird than useful—are expected in fruits. X-ray irradiation in Britain has already resulted in self-fertile cherries. Disease resistance is another

very important breeding factor which atomic rays should help to produce.

More down to earth, but none the less invaluable in the long run, are likely to be the results of using radioactive tracers to examine, for instance, how nutrients are assimilated by plants, the operation of hormones, the relations of viruses and insects, and the movements of insecticides inside the plant. Already it has been shown that better results may be obtained from fertilisers sprayed on the foliage rather than on the ground, and that the highly poisonous systemic insecticide known as schradan can pass into the nectar of the flowers, be carried away unchanged by bees and be incorporated in honey. The sterilisation of soil and the destruction of harmful organisms are other aspects which scientists are starting to explore.

There are clearly great hopes in this new branch of science. Without trying to emulate writers of science fiction, we can imagine better crops of all kinds, with more variation in time of maturity and less trouble in securing a crop, together with new kinds of flower for the pleasure garden. Perhaps the irradiation of unripe fruits will permit us to grow tropical fruits in colder climates. But all the possibilities must not blind us to the need for maintaining good husbandry, reducing erosion and bringing more land into bearing. It is of no use to increase the cropping power of a plant if the soil and food are not there to grow it.

SUMMER SOUNDS

*FROM the dense shadowed woods of afternoon
The love-call of the mated ring-dove comes
Over the sun-drenched grass and sweetbriar hedge
To mingle with the low, insistent hums
Of bee and fly upon the drowsy air.
All summer's in these sounds that lightly stress
The stillness, and a sweet eternity
Is woven in their passing loveliness.*

MALCOLM HEMPHREY.

VALUE OF TOURISM

THE British tourist industry has passed a milestone which has long been one of its ambitions: in one year it has attracted to Britain over a million visitors from overseas. But it means to do much better than this, and the annual report of the British Travel and Holidays Association believes that in nine years' time this figure will be doubled. Most of us living at home probably do not fully appreciate either the magnitude or the importance of this tourist trade; yet it has again been the country's greatest net U.S. dollar-earning export and, so the report goes on, the value of tourism is almost equal to the iron or steel exports to all parts of the world. It is very evident that so profitable an enterprise must be encouraged in every way, and two things appear particularly essential—more, better and more modern hotels and longer meal hours in catering establishments. Of both these wants we have some knowledge in our own domestic travels, and we know how infuriating it can be not to be able to get food except at too strictly limited times. How important the hotel question is appears from the Association's calculation that of every pound spent here by the overseas tourist 9s. 6d. goes to hotels, catering and restaurants. In hotels more bedrooms with private bathrooms become an ever greater need, admittedly not easy to supply. We still think of this as a pleasant luxury, but the American visitor feels it a necessity. New hotels cannot be built in a day any more than was Rome, but the constant aim must be to have them as soon as possible and meanwhile to improve and modernise the old ones.

THE "DEADLY MILDEW"

RELENTLESSLY engulfing not the fields and coasts of Britain alone, but prairie and veld and steppe, that "deadly mildew, the jungle of subtopia," is rightly given a high place on the agenda of the Oxford Conference—convened by the Duke of Edinburgh to discuss "the human problems of industrial communities within the Commonwealth and Empire." The unique position of the Consort of the British Crown could not be put to higher and

potentially more vital purpose than to leadership in quest of answers to precisely these problems, which, to their shame, if inevitably, government and industry treat as marginal to their preoccupations with economics. Sir Hugh Casson, as one of the inventors of a hideously descriptive term for a deadly phenomenon, was the right champion to assail subtopia, "that mediocre creeping ugliness of sameness" which, though affording a certain level of material benefits, is this age's substitute for slums. The menace lies as much in its inculcating a mediocre materialism of spirit as in its obliteration of visual and geographical distinction, while the wilderness of derelict industry and sour, spent, lands is not only left unreclaimed in the wake of its advance but extends before it. On this country, which took the lead in exploiting devastation, lies heaviest and most urgently the necessity of remedy.

PIG PLANS

DR. BOSANQUET and his colleagues who served on the Re-Organisation Commission for Pigs present an accurate history of the pre-war marketing schemes for pigs and bacon and a fair picture of the present prosperous but heavily subsidised pig industry. The British farmer needs subsidies averaging £2 million a month to maintain the price level guaranteed at this year's price review, and it will be recalled that the standard price was reduced this year. The Bosanquet Commission discarded proposals put to them by the N.F.U. for a producers' marketing scheme to cover all pigs, for the pork trade as well as the bacon curer. They do not believe that any one body could tackle the job satisfactorily, and they have not much faith in producers' organisations. The main recommendation is that the Government should set up a Pig Industry Development Authority which would include representatives of farmers and farm-workers, curers and meat traders. This body would be responsible for an efficiency programme throughout the industry, bacon factories as well as farms, which by the end of ten years should ensure that the degree to which the industry would need to rely on Government support would be very much reduced. There would also be a Marketing Supervisory Commission appointed by the Government, and under this rather top-heavy structure a pig producers' board and a bacon curers' board would function. These boards would not normally engage in trade but would negotiate minimum prices and help farmers who could not effect sales on their own account to bacon curers. These proposals seem complicated and they will certainly require careful examination by those who live by pigs, alive or dead, before they are accepted as workable and likely to achieve the development of the pig industry on sound economical lines.

GARDENER'S GUARANTEE

THE Ministry of Agriculture has for many years operated, through the National Agricultural Advisory Service, a scheme for the certification of nurserymen's stocks of certain plants as reaching a high standard of health and being pure in strain. The plants in question are rootstocks for top fruits, soft fruits—raspberries, strawberries and black currants—and some daffodils, which are particularly prone to virus diseases. Market growers are well aware of the scheme and make full use of it; but amateur gardeners do not hear much about it. The Ministry of Agriculture recently held a conference with the aim of publicising the scheme among gardeners, and eventually improving the general health of the plants concerned throughout the country. (Allotments in particular are to-day centres of infection from which viruses spread, carried by insects.) This is an admirable aim; the difficulty is that relatively few growers are willing to come into the scheme (which restricts the soft fruits grown to one variety on each nursery) and that, since much of the output goes into market gardens, even fewer retail nurseries offer certified stocks. The Ministry will have to urge more growers to adopt their health precautions before they can urge gardeners to demand certified plants.



ASHDOWN HOUSE, A DISTINGUISHED LATE-17th-CENTURY HOUSE ON THE BERKSHIRE DOWNS NEAR LAMBOURN, WHICH HAS BEEN GIVEN TO THE NATIONAL TRUST. Extensive repairs, including the removal of the 19th-century screen between the wings, are being undertaken with the aid of a grant from the Historic Buildings Council, and when these are completed the house will be opened to the public

A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

By IAN NIALL

THE common sandpiper is a bird that everyone who has walked along or fished a northern river or lake knows well. It is a familiar sight to those who ramble in the uplands, a thing that delights the angler, a sign that the season has come. It is a bird I know as well as I know the dipper, but until the other weekend the nest of the sandpiper was something that had always eluded me. I could boast of knowing the nest of the dipper and the ring-ouzel, as well as the wheatear and the meadow-pipit, but on the lakes, where the sandpiper is a very common bird, I had failed to find a single nest.

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At the weekend we were on the long, rough track into the hills, almost three-quarters of an hour on our way and deep in conversation as usual, when I stepped out of the track to avoid getting my feet wet (my boots were slung on my shoulder, for there are no more punishing things to walk a long way over rough ground in than thigh boots). A sandpiper rose from the round rushes in front of me. I stood still and looked carefully. I had found a nest at last. It contained four beautiful eggs in a tight little hollow lined with fine grass. The eggs filled the bowl completely. So that I might look again at the nest, I marked the place with a stone which I dropped on the track. All day (my first blank day of the season, brought on, perhaps, by the fact that I simply had to brag in a letter to a friend that I had not had a blank day as yet) the thought that I could at last say I had found a sandpiper's nest brightened me. It is no great ornithological feat to find the nest of a bird already labelled common, but there are many birds and not too many summers given to anyone to do all the things he would like.

By the time I was on my way home it was raining heavily. I walked past the nest as gently as I could. The sandpiper sat tight. I could have touched her, I might call again on my way up, but I fancy that sandpiper chicks leave the nest quickly. I have several times found them in the stones by the lakeside or in the grass of a river bank.

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ANOTHER discovery on the same day might have interested pigeon fanciers who sit by their lofts waiting for racing strays to return. I have noticed before that when numbers of birds are reported lost after cross-Channel races strays appear in my part of the world. We have restored two to their rightful owners and in one case had to wait for the railway strike to end before we could get the bird off in a box.

I had followed my companion into a bay where we usually expect a fish or two, but this time nothing came to the fly. "When you get over to that rock," said my friend, "watch out

for a bite. If you don't get a fish you might catch a pigeon." In a crevice in the rock I found a very thin and hungry-looking blue hen pigeon. She had a ring on her leg and looked very sad, and I wondered if she had been driven down into that corner by hawks. I reached out to touch her and she moved from one leg on to the other, and I almost had her when the whole thing became too much and very clumsily she took off. There was an awful moment when it seemed she would never get halfway across the lake (she flew at a height of about four feet from the surface), but gradually, I was thankful to see, she gained height and battled on up until she was flying at something nearer two or three hundred feet from the water. Finally, when I thought she was going on, right out of the hills, which would have been a good thing, she turned in and flapped into the rocks on the almost sheer face of the cliff at the far end of the lake.

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ON the way home, shortly after seeing the sandpiper's nest, I found another racing pigeon sitting on a boulder by the track. This one had a ring on either leg and was in better condition than the first. I put out my hand to offer it a piece of bread which I had taken from my knapsack, but, although it was very tame, it would not take the food and suddenly bobbed forward against the wind, hunched its wings so that it looked somehow like a stooping falcon and allowed itself to be lifted by the wind. Thereupon the wings spread in the normal way and it turned almost completely over and flew off at great speed. Before we got down to the car I saw no fewer than three birds all of which I believed to be homing pigeons. So, for what it is worth, I think the pigeon fanciers who lose so many valuable birds might look for them in the north-west. It seems to me that a good number are likely to be scattered about the hills of Wales.

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THREE are some parts of the coast where the sea air smells strong mainly because a great deal of weed is put on the beach by successive tides. People who come from places inland like to smell the sea and set great store by the breeze that blows from the tide-line. I am not a good sailor. Somehow the sea air is associated in my mind with a very uncomfortable day I spent out in the bay fishing from a small boat that had a very oily engine. We live within easy reach of the sea, but I don't often go down to it. When I talk about the sea air it is usually to remark on what it does to the paintwork. There may not be a lot in the power of a sea breeze, but it does have an effect on paint, or at least the salt in the breeze does. Ask any house-painter at a seaside place and he will agree

"What you're up against here is the salt in the air. Now, supposing this house was at Middle-wallop the paint would last five years or even six. Here you have got to allow for the damage the salt does, and paint every four years. Five years is too long."

I wondered about this when we first came. Was it another tall tale? The salt in the air is very hard to detect. We rarely remark that we can smell the sea and then it is almost invariably after a gale when the sea has thrashed the rocks and brought in a great mountain of weed. Time has proved the painters to be right. The best paint finds it hard to withstand the almost undetectable salt in the air. I asked the decorator about it last year. He could think of no preventive except, perhaps, boat varnish, which doesn't look very handsome.

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WEAR and tear on woodwork and paint are very different on different sides of a house. The prevailing wind may be west, south, or even east, but the greatest damage always seems to be done on the south-west side, where sun and rain get at the paint in turn. I remember calling on the joiner to ask him to replace a bit of timber on a window-ledge. He told me exactly where the piece was needed. He knew the corner and had had similar jobs to do on half a dozen properties facing the same way. The weathered side of the house is the sunny side and paint retains its gloss on the northerly side. Someone should invent a paint that needs washing only once in five years and locks up and protects the wood from the sun and rain and, of course, from salt in the air.

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IF rabbits have a chance of reproducing themselves and returning to pest the farmers all over the country, it is surely in the gulleys and the dense thickets that surround such places in my part of the world. There are places where a gymnast might not care to venture, and the most efficient rabbit-catcher might be excused failure. From what I see and hear (it gives a certain prestige to a local to be able to nod his head now and say: "I know where you can see a dozen rabbits if you get up early enough") rabbits are breeding in these places. I have heard of them in the vicinity of the cottage. They are said to be living within a short distance of the best bowling green in the village, and in Anglesey—one of the first clearance areas in this part of the world—there is a tale that farmers have remarked that the rabbit is coming back, for it has been noted mating with hares! Tall tales are common late on a warm evening after haymaking, and I fancy that some of the people who claim to have seen such a thing can't tell a rabbit from a leveret. But even so, I shouldn't be surprised to find the rabbit back here in strength seven or eight years from now.



ST. MARY'S CHURCH, KEMPLEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE, FROM THE SOUTH-WEST. The chancel and nave date from the first half of the 12th century; the tower was added in the time of Edward I. The accompanying article describes the history and preservation of the fine series of 12th-century paintings on the vault and walls of the chancel

A MASTERPIECE OF PRESERVATION HISTORY OF THE KEMPLEY WALL PAINTINGS ◽ Written and Illustrated by J. R. H. WEAVER

THE paintings on the vault and walls of the chancel of the small, rather remote, Norman church at Kempley, Gloucestershire, about three miles from Dymock, have long been known to antiquaries and ecclesiologists. This is on account not only of their age but of their monumental character. Their date is probably not later than 1150, and they constitute the most complete scheme of 12th-century coloured decoration surviving in any parish church in England. "Decoration" is indeed hardly the right word. These paintings are almost certainly contemporary with the building of the church; more than this, they clearly formed part of its original intention and design, and were not added later for decorative purposes, as was so much of the later mediaeval painting in English parish churches. Painting on a scale such as this at Kempley, so full of purpose, so carefully planned and fitted to its place, is indeed part of the architecture itself. That is why it has attracted the notice of historians in England

and abroad in a wider field than that of local antiquities: it is referred to, for instance, not only in Dr. A. L. Poole's volume in the *Oxford History of England* now in progress, but also in André Michel's monumental *Histoire de l'Art* begun over fifty years ago.

How is it that these Kempley paintings have survived? Probably for three reasons, in the main. First, because the small barrel-vault of the chancel, built in rubble and measuring rather less than 20 by 14 feet, has never been rebuilt, and remains a unique example of such vaulting, above ground level, among English parish churches; second, because the whitewash with which these paintings were covered up at the Reformation, doubtless often renewed since, has served as a protective coating; and third, because, as has recently been proved, the paintings, over the greater part of their surface, are true frescoes, the original colours having been put on while the plaster-ground was still wet, thereby becoming incorporated in it, instead of

being, like the later *secco*, a skin-deep layer of paint liable to come away when the wall was scrubbed down or the whitewash coating scraped off. It should be added that the Kempley paintings have escaped any modern attempt at "restoration." In this they have been more fortunate than the very similar paintings in the apse of Copford Church, Essex—the only scheme of painting comparable with that at Kempley in age, unity of design, colouring and, it may be said, devotional treatment, which, so far as is known, survived in any English parish church into the 19th century. The Copford paintings, discovered in 1690, were extensively repainted, with falsification of many details, in 1872. In a very few other parish churches—notably at Claverley, Shropshire, and Hardham, Sussex—extensive 12th-century paintings or fragments of paintings exist in varying states of preservation, but in style, execution and treatment of subject—usually episodic—they all differ radically from those at Kempley. The nearest parallel to the Kempley scheme of painting must be sought not in a parish church but in Canterbury cathedral, in the apse paintings of St. Gabriel's chapel in the crypt. Finer in execution, though not in conception, these paintings owe their preservation—though this is far from complete—to the fact that the apse was partially walled up not long after its building *circa* 1130 to 1150.

The history of the discovery of the Kempley paintings is of some interest, as some new facts have recently come to light. It has been often stated that the paintings were discovered in the winter of 1872 by a well-known antiquary, John Henry Middleton, who later became Slade Professor of Fine Art and Director of the FitzWilliam Museum at Cambridge University, and eventually Art Director of the South Kensington Museum. Middleton, who was aged 26 at the time, certainly had a hand in the removal of the whitewash; but it appears from the diary of the then vicar of Kempley, Arthur Hislop Drummond, that it was he who first came upon the paintings in the summer of that year (1872). The vicar had evidently called in Middleton's father, John Middleton, F.R.I.B.A., who was then practising in Cheltenham, to repair the chancel vault, which was beginning to crack owing to the settlement of the walls.

The following are extracts from Mr. Drummond's diary for 1872: "20 August: Began to scrape the chancel, discovered good fresco work in north window. 21 August: Continued scraping the chancel and brought out a good figure. 22 August: A good figure of a Bishop revealed. The fresco continues to increase in interest. 23 August: Began to get out the 12 Apostles. 28 August: Scraping continues, and fresco very interesting. 30 August: Returned



THE CHANCEL VAULT OF KEMPLEY CHURCH IN PROCESS OF CLEANING. The dark section of vault below the topmost scaffolding bar awaits cleaning. The central figure on the vault, within an aureole, is Christ in Glory, surrounded by the sun and moon, seraphim with pennons, the Seven Golden Candlesticks and emblems of the Evangelists. The figure of St. Peter is at the top on the right

to Kempley and found much work had been done in church and capital work brought to light, the ceiling being uncovered. 2 September: More fresco in arch, very faulty work. 3 September: Scrapped in morning at arch. Whole of church body frescoed. 5 September: Mr. Middleton visited the church and was extremely pleased with the frescoes in the chancel, which he declared to be coeval with the church. 9 September: Men came to continue scraping the church . . . 2 October: Mr. Gambier Parry came to see the frescoes. Expressed himself more than pleased, declaring them to be quite unique. He took outline sketches of them, and fixed the date at 1180 . . . 12 November: Heard from Mr. Middleton proposing to bring a clerk to trace the frescoes. 19 November: Mr. Middleton came. His clerk and son remained to measure the church and copy the frescoes. 22 November: Frescoes going on. Mr. Young not very keen about doing them though, has not traced them. 23 November: Mr. Young left, having done all he could about the frescoes."

From these entries and others not included here it seems clear that the scraping of the chancel walls and vault and chancel arch occupied about a fortnight in August 1872, and that thereafter for two months or more the work of scraping was continued in the nave. This latter process in fact yielded no results comparable in age or importance with the chancel paintings. It seems also very probable that after the departure of Mr. Young, presumably the "clerk," on November 23, the younger Middleton remained to make the drawings and perhaps draft the valuable description of the chancel paintings which formed the basis of the paper communicated to the Society of Antiquaries several years later by J. T. Micklethwaite (*Archaeologia*, vol. xlvi, 1881).

It is unfortunate that the case history of the Kempley paintings since the date of their discovery has never been adequately recorded. In his description of them J. H. Middleton, referring to the chancel paintings, wrote: "This covering of whitewash we removed bit by bit with the greatest caution and deliberation in the winter of 1872, when the existence of the paintings first came to light"—a statement which does not tally with the Drummond diary. In his communication Micklethwaite stated: "No attempt at restoration has been made" and added: "It is satisfactory to know that these pictures, which for antiquity and completeness



THE CHANCEL ARCH AND PAINTINGS ON THE SOUTH WALL, VAULT AND EAST WALL OF THE CHANCEL. The section of wall and vault between the window and east wall has not yet been cleaned

(Left) FIGURE OF A BISHOP ON THE EAST WALL OF THE CHANCEL. This is possibly the Diocesan (Bishop of Hereford) who consecrated the church

are, I believe, without rivals in England, are now well cared for. They are not to be restored." To this information C. E. Keyser added (1877) that the paintings, which he dated about 1130, "were most carefully preserved."

From recent tests it is now known that this "preservation" took the form of coating the paintings, soon after their discovery, with a resinous varnish—a process which was renewed about forty years later—with the inevitable result that a progressive darkening of the varnish set in, and the paintings grew more and more indistinct or, as observers put it, appeared to "fade." In fact the colours, which had lost little of their brightness during 700 years, had not faded but were being obliterated by the darkening varnish, the thick hard coat of which, moreover, imprisoned the damp entering from the outside walls. "The damp climate of England," wrote the late Sir Alfred Clapham, "has been more fatal to the great majority of mediæval wall-painting in this country than any actively hostile action of protestant, puritan, or church warden."

It is not surprising, therefore, that in 1927 Mr. Hobart Bird wrote: "Unfortunately these remarkable paintings still continue to fade (sic), notwithstanding every effort to save them, being now much less distinct than when I first visited the church some ten years ago." In 1944 the late Professor Tristram, who dated the paintings "mid-12th century," observed that "unfortunately they were treated with varnish about 25 years ago, and their condition is not good." He was in a position to judge, as he had made an elaborate series of drawings of the paintings 30 years before (1914). Finally, in September, 1949, Mr. E. Clive Rouse, F.S.A., reported the "marked deterioration" of the paintings since an earlier visit made about twenty years before, calling particular attention to the gradual disintegration of the varnish, whereby the whole painted surface was being endangered, and urging that some





SOUTH WALL OF THE CHANCEL, WITH FIGURES OF SIX APOSTLES. This photograph was taken in September, 1955, while cleaning was in progress

attempt be made to deal with the extremely difficult problem—and, it may be added, costly process—of the cleaning and further preservation of the paintings.

Thanks to the energetic representations of the vicar of Kempley, Canon D. Gethyn Jones, with the support of the Gloucester Diocesan Advisory Committee and the Central Council for the Care of Churches, a generous grant was promised from the Dulverton Trustees, and in the summer of 1955 Mrs. Eve Baker, A.R.C.A., an expert of great skill and experience, who has worked on murals not only in English churches but in Denmark with Konservator Egmont Lind, was commissioned to make a new examination of the Kempley paintings and report on the feasibility of their cleaning and preservation. Mrs. Baker's report (August, 1955) showed that the work involved first, the removal of the thick, blackened coating of preservatives—waterglass in 1873, and subsequently white-of-egg and shellac varnishing—as well as of the remains of the whitewash; second, the removal of unskillful mediaeval repainting and retouching, of which there was ample evidence; third, the feeding and stabilising of the plaster ground and renewal of unsatisfactory repairs to it; and finally, the cleaning and hardening of the colours.

Whereas the scraping of the whitewash from the walls and vault of the chancel had been

accomplished with alarming rapidity in a few days in August, 1872, the new cleaning process has taken Mrs. Baker several months of arduous and meticulous work under difficult conditions (*the church is without electric lighting*), and its completion will occupy some months yet. But it has, so far, proved in the highest degree successful, and it is hoped that when complete this remarkable scheme of 12th-century church decoration, unique in its survival in England and comparable with the contemporary church paintings in Italy and Catalonia, will come to light once more.

The Kempley paintings have several times been described in more or less detail. Some of the descriptions are interrelated, but that by J. H. Middleton, published in 1878, but probably written a few years earlier, is certainly at first-hand, and is modified in only a few details by Professor Tristram's analysis published in 1944. Only the briefest summary can be given here. The centrepiece of the scheme, on the crown of the vault, is a *Majestas Domini*, a great figure of Christ, seated, within a triple mandorla, the feet to the east, the right hand in benediction, and in the left an open book showing the Greek letters *IHSUSXPS*. Surrounding the mandorla are: at the head (west), the sun, the moon, and the seven golden candlesticks; at the sides, the symbols of the Evangelists—the man and the lion (north), the eagle

and the calf (south); and at the foot, a globe—the earth; in the background, the firmament, are several large stars. Standing by are four tall seraphim, two with pennons and two with scrolls. In the foreground of the vision, as it were at the gate of Paradise, stand the Blessed Virgin holding a little church and St. Peter with key in hand. These two figures are nearest the chancel arch. On the walls of the chancel, north and south, are seated the Apostles, six on either side under an arcade; their heads and hands are raised in adoration. Further to the east in the north wall and south wall is a small window, deeply splayed, over which appear the walls and towers of a city—the Heavenly Jerusalem. Over the east window are three roundels enclosing half-figures of angels.

Thus far the vision of Heaven, based mainly, of course, on *Revelation i and iv*. There are three supplementary figures at the east end of the chancel under painted niches—one, of a bishop in mitre and vestments, with crozier, his right hand raised in blessing; the other two, on the north and south walls respectively, have the appearance of palmers or pilgrims. There is much decoration throughout the chancel and on the chancel arch in the form of riband ornament, chequer pattern, medallions, etc. There are also indications here and there of the fresco lines which separated one day's painting on the wet plaster from that of another.

The whole work is markedly Byzantine in character. It may or may not be affiliated with that of an English school of illumination or sculpture, such as that of Winchester or Hereford; but it is sufficiently distinctive to be the work of an anonymous master, who had been influenced by, if not carried into, one of the stylistic currents which flowed so strongly from the Christian East into Western Europe and flourished so abundantly at this period in northern Spain. This art knew no frontiers. It is by no means far-fetched to look for parallels with the work at Kempley, even to the details of brushwork and lettering, in the 12th-century frescoes from Catalan churches preserved in the museums of Vich and Barcelona, or indeed, *in situ* in the church of San Isidoro, León. Such investigation, however, can well await the completion of Mrs. Baker's work, which, it is hoped, will reveal in much of their vivid original colours paintings which were done in an English country church 100 years before Giotto was born.



NORTH WALL OF CHANCEL, WITH FIGURES OF SIX APOSTLES. One figure has not yet been cleaned. (Right) HEAD OF APOSTLE IN GROUP ON NORTH WALL



WHY NOT PLANT POPLARS?

A recent case in the Courts in which the plaintiffs were awarded damages for the harm judged to have been done to their houses by the roots of poplar trees has focused attention on the possible dangers of planting poplars. Several correspondents have written to ask our advice on this matter, and our advice is that it is usually safe to plant poplars except on clay soil, where their thirst for water may lead to subsidence. This danger, indeed, is common to many kinds of tree; the various species of poplar are merely the worst offenders. The author of the following article describes some of the many different kinds of poplar and comments, in general, on their more attractive features.—ED.

THE remark of one forester to another made me think that poplars might have a wider interest to non-specialists. "You know that plot of androscoggins we have? One or two of them are now up to 51 feet. Blank reported them as 47 feet, and Dash commented that he didn't believe it: they were only planted, as one plus one transplants, in 1950, so they couldn't be 47 feet with only seven seasons' growth. Along went Smith and Jones to check the measurement. Result, tallest trees 51 feet before they'd flushed this spring; and others about the same. They're a pretty even dozen."

Let us call it 50 feet in seven years from ground level. And when I went to look at the trees I found there were other species and varieties not very far behind: *Populus robusta*, in particular, was competing, but was slower by nearly one foot a year, and this is perhaps the best-known and most widely planted (at least, since the war) of all hybrids produced within the last 70 years. Admittedly, the site was ideal: a rich deep soil with a running stream near by, in a valley sheltered from wind. And of course the trees had been well tended, with ample mulching from the grass and weeds cut in summer. But 50 feet in seven years, or perhaps a mere 25 feet in seven years for some of the less vigorous species: with speeds like these, I wondered, why don't more people have two or three poplars just for the fun of watching them grow? And what a chance to inoculate children with an interest in trees.

The slough of poplar names and genealogies, which may induce more despondency than curiosity or interest, cannot be avoided, but the task of tackling it may be postponed for a few paragraphs in favour of a glance at less confusing matters. In general, poplars are very

greedy feeders and they want plenty of moisture in order to enable them to take up the minerals for which they have such an appetite. This greed and thirst have at least two interesting aspects. First, the withdrawal of water is liable in clayey ground to mean shrinkage of the soil and consequent settlement of any buildings—a less obvious risk than actual intrusion of roots into drains or brickwork. Experts recommend that the more vigorous poplars should not be planted nearer than 40 yards to any building. Second, where there is an unwanted wet spot, whether natural or perhaps from a soakaway of some kind, poplars may help to dry it up. But, once again, don't forget, if a drain is involved, that the greedy roots may not stop just where you would wish them to stop. Incidentally, if troublesome poplars have to be felled and the suckering nuisance is feared, spring seems to be the best time for execution. There is then a better chance of the stump and roots bleeding to death.

The amenity aspects of poplars are, of course, various. The Lombardy and some other species have been widely used as ornaments and for screens, and the scent of the balsam poplars is well known. But the ornamental qualities of, for example, the fastigiate and silver varieties of the white poplar, the golden variety of *Populus serotina* and the purple-red variety of the aspen have not been exploited as freely as they might have been: these three trees are all moderate growers and by no means to be confused or compared with the vigorous poplars which are of chief interest to the forester. They can, if desired, be spaced rather more closely than the 22 feet by 22 feet (90 trees to the acre) which is normal for fast-growing hybrids, but it should be remembered that all poplars are light-demanders and none

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A GIANT BLACK POPLAR IN THE GROUNDS OF CHRIST'S COLLEGE, BRECON

likes to be crowded. Perhaps poplars should be always considered as trees of light and gentle shimmering movement, trees which throw only a hesitant shade when compared with (say) beech.

Incidentally, the insistence of poplars on plenty of space, and their refusal to be crowded, is the reason why timber-yields per acre usually look rather small when compared with those returned by many conifers. And this may be a good place to recall that the Forestry Commission pays a poplar-planting subsidy of £8 an acre, or, alternatively, of 2s. a tree for poplars planted in lines or avenues. The conditions require a minimum spacing of 18 ft. by 18 ft. or a maximum of 24 ft. by 24 ft.; or, for avenues and single lines, 18 ft. Trees must be of approved canker-resistant varieties—a condition which disqualifies all the balsam poplars.

Poplars have their full share of insect and fungus pests and they are also specially attractive to some mammals. Horses and deer both seem to delight in damaging poplars, and deer have been known to seek them out, in apparently hidden and secure places, with a pertinacity that seems fiendish.

The ready or facile root-striking character of poplar cuttings is famous, but in fact there is a good deal of variation. Cuttings of the white poplars and the aspens are much less ready to strike root than cuttings of the balsam and black poplars. Cuttings and stakes of the latter two are sometimes too eager to strike: there are several amusing tales of poplar stakes (used to support valuable trees of other species) and of poplar fence posts striking firm roots and soaring happily upwards during an owner's absence, with embarrassing or incovenient results.

The timber of poplar also varies, but it is not generally ranked among the stronger or tougher kinds. Yet its use for floor-boards and formerly for the bottoms of carts and for brake blocks shows that it will stand up well to abrasive wear and tear. To-day, its best-known use is for making matches (scouts for good trees are all over the country, and some very long hauls are made), with aspen as the first favourite species. Poplar timber also makes good wood pulp for cellulose and paper. Baskets for soft fruit—the chips and punnets used for



AN AVENUE OF YOUNG WHITE POPLARS AT COTHELSTONE, SOMERSET



ONE YEAR'S GROWTH OF BLACK ITALIAN POPLARS (*POPULUS SEROTINA*) IN A NURSERY. Some of them are over 7 ft. tall

strawberries and raspberries—and boxes and casks (dry cooperage) to hold and transport food are among other familiar uses.

As has already been hinted, the many species of poplars, their grouping and their names, are confusing and perhaps slightly discouraging. The white poplar, *Populus alba*, is a native of Europe but probably not of England; Turner wrote in 1568 that he had never seen "the white aspe" in this country. The name white poplar has often been applied to the grey poplar (*P. canescens*), which can look very white, but the leaves differ in shape, if not in colour. The white poplar has a palmate leaf, with three or five lobes, as though it might have some relationship to the maples, but the grey poplar leaf, though coarsely toothed, is a roundish oval. The white very rarely makes a large tree in England, but *P. canescens* may run up to 100 feet. Foresters commonly group the two together as the white section, but only the grey poplar is of any value as a timber tree.

The true aspens number three: our native *P. tremula* and the two Americans, *P. tremuloides* and *P. grandidentata*. Aspens make the best match timber of any poplars, but they are not very fast growers. An exception is the triploid aspen, much publicised in Scandinavia. The famous or notorious trembling habit of aspen leaves (mainly because of the vertically flattened and exceptionally long leaf stalks) has given rise to the superstition that the Cross was made of aspen, and thus to some distaste or fear of the tree, at least in Scotland and our northern counties, where aspen is more common than in the south.

The term "balsam poplar" does not necessarily mean *P. balsamifera* (syn. *tacamahaca*) as people sometimes think, but includes also *P. candicans* (recently re-named *gleadensis*) and the well-known and vigorous *P. trichocarpa*, all three of them Americans, together with several Asiatic species such as *P. maximowiczii*, *P. yunnanensis* and *P. laurifolia*.

The black poplars are the most generally planted, probably the most important and (with one or two exceptions) the most vigorous timber-making poplars. The familiar Lombardy poplar, which has little favour with foresters, is *P. nigra* var. *italica* (or var. *pyramidalis* or var. *fastigiata*). It was introduced from Turin in 1758—a male tree. Perhaps 99.9 per cent. of the Lombardy poplars in this country are males, but quite a number of females are known to exist. The typical *P. nigra* has a wide-spreading crown and will commonly make a very large tree, which can be most handsome in early spring when a heavy crop of crimson catkins develops. Indeed, that applies to some

others of the male black poplars: their fine spring colour is insufficiently appreciated. The chief American black poplar is *P. deltoides*.

Most of the very vigorous poplars now recommended for economic planting are hybrids. For example, the widely used "black Italian poplar" (usually *P. serotina*—late because it is the last of all to put out its leaves) is said to be almost certainly a hybrid between the European black poplar (*P. nigra*) and the American black poplar (*P. deltoides*), but it is not one of the modern hybrids, since it appeared before 1755. *P. serotina* grows to a great size.

P. regenerata, which has sometimes been called the eucalyptus poplar, is another of the older hybrids—possibly a cross between *P. nigra* and *P. serotina*. And *P. eugeni*, dating from 1832, is believed to have sprung from *P. regenerata* and the Lombardy poplar. A very vigorous and sometimes a coarse tree, *P. eugeni* is a puzzle. Only after many years was it recognised as having distinct canker-free and canker-susceptible strains. More recently some experts have inclined to think that two very similar varieties have been sharing the same label. On one famous Norfolk estate canker-free *P. eugeni* does better than any other poplar. The famous and much-praised *P. robusta* originated in 1895 in France, probably from the crossing of the American *P. deltoides* var. *angulata* and the European *P. nigra* var. *plantariensis*. It breaks no speed records in the nursery, but for the following 20 or 25 years, after having been planted out, it is very fast and should at 25 years be ready for felling. *P. gelrica*, which has very white bark, is a Dutch product, probably a hybrid between *P. serotina* and the American *P. marilandica*. A vigorous, fast-growing tree, *P. gelrica* is in the top class for canker-resistance.

P. generosa, which seems

to have been the first deliberate hybrid, was produced at Kew by Augustine Henry's crossing a male *P. nigra* with a female *P. deltoides* var. *anguillaris*. Very fast grower, it is susceptible to canker. It comes from the Berlin Botanic Garden—from the Asiatic balsam poplar *P. laurifolia* and either a Lombardy poplar or a black hybrid.

The oddly named *P. androscoggin* certainly deserves another word, for it is exceptional in two or three ways. It is a hybrid from *P. maximowiczii* (an Asiatic balsam poplar) and *P. trichocarpa* (American balsam poplar) and may thus form a notable exception to the general rule that the vigorous and important timber species are to be found among the black poplars and their hybrids. *P. androscoggin* was first reported in 1934 in an account of work done in Maine for the Oxford Paper Company, and it was named after one of the Maine rivers. So recently as 1952 the official comment on this new tree was discouraging, so far as England was concerned, and it was thought to have no future here, but this judgement has now been revised. The more optimistic view is, however, still in the nature of an interim opinion. *P. androscoggin* tends to lose its leader in early years, and thus to become a very ugly tree while the leader is being replaced by a branch, but the replacement is so efficient that the bole of the tree soon looks quite normal and straight.

Some other hybrids among the balsam groups are now showing promise, as does also the result of crossing the white European poplar *P. alba* with the American aspen *P. grandidentata*.

In conclusion, a special acknowledgement must be made to the Forestry Commission's Bulletin No. 19, *Poplars*, by T. R. Peace (H.M.S.O., 7s. 6d.), on which I have drawn heavily, especially for the latter part of this article. The bulletin gives comprehensive information on varieties, canker-resistance, pests, nursery practice and silviculture, and the uses of poplar timber. Its only noteworthy failing is that it dates from some years ago (1952) and poplar research, like poplar growth, is very rapid.



A PLANTATION OF *POPULUS ROBUSTA* AND *POPULUS ANDROSCOGGIN* IN SOMERSET. The former are now over 40 ft. tall, and the latter 50 ft. tall. They girth respectively 17 ins. and 23 ins. at 5 ft. from the ground. They were planted in 1950 when 6-7 ft. tall

COURTSHIP OF THE HEN-HARRIER

Written and Illustrated by W. KENNETH RICHMOND

In previous articles dealing with the aggressiveness of hen-harriers at the nest (COUNTRY LIFE, February 17 and October 13, 1955), I described the hair-raising exploits of one particular individual—Lady Macbeth, as we called her—who came near to scalping me on more than one occasion. Were it not that the private lives of these singularly handsome hawks are so little known, there might be no excuse for returning to the subject so soon. Not that I need any excuse, for during the past five years my interest in the hen-harrier has come to be a ruling passion. No doubt every bird-watcher has his private enthusiasm, an enthusiasm which he does not always find easy to justify to others, but in my own case the difficulty does not arise, for anyone with half an eye should surely agree that of all the British predators none is more distinguished, more elegant or more dramatic than the hen-harrier. Devotees of the marsh and Montagu's harriers may disagree, of course. For myself, I can only say that I have watched both these species with wonder and delight (what could be more impressive than the sight of a slim cock Montagu's side by side with a great hen marsh-harrier in her chocolate and gold beating over a Norfolk reedbed?), but without feeling the same thrill which a pair of hen-harriers never fails to evoke.

Unlike other parts of the country, the west of Scotland enjoyed one of the most open winters for several years in 1955-56, with no really protracted spell of frost and comparatively little snow on the hills. Except for the red and black grouse and an occasional herd of deer, the sheltered valley where, last summer, two pairs of hen-harriers had succeeded in rearing nine young ones between them was more or less deserted after the end of September. Evidently the families had dispersed, and, though I visited the valley regularly throughout the winter, I never once saw a cock bird in the vicinity of the breeding territory. Lady Macbeth, however (easily recognisable by her markings), continued to hunt the neighbouring moors, and on New Year's Day I came upon her at a height of 2,000



COCK HEN-HARRIER CHALLENGING AN INTRUDER ON ITS NESTING-GROUNDS IN PERTHSHIRE. Normally the female does most of the attacking, but in one of the pairs whose courtship the author watched it was the male that proved the more aggressive

feet, scattering the grouse beneath her as she headed into the blizzard. Almost every week the blue-grey cock could be seen quartering the level boglands away to the east, but it was not

until the middle of February that he showed any inclination to return to his summer haunts. Difficult as it is to be certain about the movements of harriers, especially in such rough, tractless country as this, it seems that the birds of the year leave the district altogether in their first autumn, while the adults remain behind.

Would 1956 see the establishment of a colony of these rare hawks, I wondered. Though it is unlikely that the hen-harrier reaches breeding condition before its second spring, I was hoping that some, if not all, of last year's broods would return to the valley, for no bird is more faithful to its nesting haunts. That there would again be two nests and that they would be situated within a short distance of the old ones I was fairly confident; and there was always the chance that one or other of the 1954 youngsters (Lady Macbeth's offspring) would put in an appearance and settle near their birthplace.

If only I could describe the excitement, the high hopes mingled with misgivings, the sudden delights of those Highland days in early spring—clear, sparkling days when the Perthshire hills were still speckled with snow and the only sound to be heard was the low croonings of blackcocks at their lek. Sure enough, on March 10, a pair of harriers appeared together, circling lazily above the territory which they had occupied in previous years. Lady Macbeth and her partner were in business again. For days she hung about the hill-top, lonely as Wordsworth's cloud, drifting round and round, a mere speck in the sky. More than once she was hard put to defend herself against the rough handling of three buzzards which bore down on her again and again, rolling her over in mid-air. She squealed aloud for the cock to come to her assistance, but he was far enough away, hunting for pipits on the far side of the hill. Outnumbered as she was, she gave as good as she took, sideslipping and flashing her talons at full reach whenever her assailants threatened to come within striking distance; and in the end she succeeded in driving them off.

Soon afterwards the cock returned, to be greeted with the plaintive whistle of the hen. Buoyantly she rose to join him, eager for the offering he had brought, but for once he



"THE COCK HARRIER HALF CLOSED HIS WINGS AND DROVE STRAIGHT INTO THE ATTACK, DROPPING HIS TALONS AND HECKLING ME AS HE SWEPT LOW OVER MY HEAD"

preferred to tease her a little, toying with the prey while she pursued him. Round and round they sailed, she cackling aloud, he muttering softly to himself; and then, as she swept beneath his tail, came the famous pass. It is a ritual which all harriers perform throughout the breeding season and as neat a piece of aerobatics as one could wish to see.

Alas for their hopes—and mine. After this promising reunion, the cock harrier disappeared. What became of him there was no saying. Possibly he had been shot or perhaps he had lost interest and gone elsewhere. Neither of these explanations seemed very plausible, but there it was. For another three weeks Lady Macbeth continued to patrol her old beat, whistling off and on for the lost one to come and feed her, but in the end all her solicitings proved to be vain and she remained mateless.

In the meantime a second pair had begun their courtship on a heathery slope not far away. From the start it was clear that these were the same birds which had nested hereabouts in 1955—an unusually fearless cock and a rather timorous, not to say shiftless, hen, very different from that redoubtable character Lady Macbeth.

The display flight of the cock hen-harrier is strangely beautiful, almost trance-like in its compulsion. With purposeful, flaunting strokes of its wings, the bird mounts at an angle of 60 degrees, then nosedives and mounts again; and so, rising and falling all the while in slow motion, its pinions sweeping the air above and beneath its body, it follows an undulating course. Viewed from a distance, the performance gives the impression of being rather strenuous, but at close quarters it is seen to be so perfectly relaxed that it is best described as effortless. Certainly it serves its purpose as self-advertisement. Usually it has its own vocal accompaniment, a low mutter, quite distinct from the hen's shrill treble and the high-pitched food-call, *tsee-uk*, which she utters whenever the cock returns from his hunting. She, too, has a display flight, which is no less graceful than her partner's. Sailing into the breeze, she dips her head as if in salute, at the same time performing a sort of victory roll. Righting herself, she repeats the manoeuvre again and again, dipping and rolling with the languorous ease of one who is so self-preoccupied as to be oblivious to everything else.

As often as not these aerial sportings are indulged in for their own sake and in the absence of the opposite sex, but once the site of the nest has been fixed, the pair frequently perform together. Soaring to a height of a thousand feet



HEN-HARRIER'S NEST, WITH A FULL CLUTCH OF EGGS ON APRIL 14, AN EXCEPTIONALLY EARLY DATE FOR SCOTTISH HARRIERS

or more, they float like kites for hours at a time—a habit which is apt to prove tantalising when one is anxious to discover the precise whereabouts of the nest. Aimless as they appear to be, it is clear that these high-level flights are engaged in for the sake of prospecting the ground and that even after the birds have mated the actual choice of a site is left until the last moment. Cismontane or ultramontane? One day the cock displayed *con amore* on the northern slopes of the valley and was twice seen carrying material to a patch of heather not a hundred yards from last year's nest. Next morning he had transferred his attentions to the opposite side of the valley. As for the hen, it seemed that she could be happy with either site—or neither. Whichever it was, I concluded that she had not yet made up her mind.

Then, on April 10, came one of those unexpected shocks which upset the calculations of

bird-watchers and convince them that they know far less than they imagine. It was a sunny, windless morning, with the smoke of burning heather drifting across the moors. As I made my way uphill the female appeared above the skyline, soaring as usual. As she swung away, she uttered the whistling call-note which showed that the cock was somewhere in the offing. But where? From the summit ridge I scoured the brown waste in every direction without seeing any sign of him. From this vantage point I looked out over the hazy Highlands, the blue bens and the lion-coloured hills shimmering in the milky air. As I did so the bird overhead was joined by a second female, Lady Macbeth herself! I recognised her hysterical whinny at once. Perhaps the widowed harrier had enticed the cock away, then? (I had known cases of this happening before.)

While I was still thinking about it I heard the familiar chatter of the bird I was looking for; and there he was, a vision of grey and white set off with jet-black primaries, wafting to and fro over a likely-looking patch of heather some three or four hundred yards farther down the hill. As I watched he alighted for a moment in a birch bush (reminding me of Gilbert White's remark: "Hen-harriers breed on the ground and seem never to settle on trees"), only to cast off and carry on patrolling again. Rather suspicious this, I thought. Dropping down the slope, I made for the spot, fully expecting that the bird would retire as I approached. Instead, his tactics—and his mood—changed. Wheeling round, the cock harrier half closed his wings and drove straight into the attack, dropping his talons and heckling me as he swept low over my head.

To say the least of it, this behaviour was surprising, not to say uncalled for. After all, it was only April 10, and so far as my records went the earliest laying date for Scottish harriers was April 19, yet here was one showing fight already. As I kept on through the heather, however, it became more and more apparent that I was getting "warm." The chattering grew more virulent, the swoops more spirited; and suddenly, there at my feet, was the nest with its three greenish-white eggs gleaming at the centre. Allowing for a forty-eight-hour interval between each laying, and assuming that the third had been laid that morning, this meant that the first egg must have been produced on April 6.

Needless to say, I wasted no time but made off post-haste, with the harrier looping and diving at me as I went. Once again, I reflected, this unpredictable bird had kept me guessing—and guessing wrongly—until the end of its courtship.



HEN-HARRIERS A FORTNIGHT OLD

AN INDIVIDUALISTIC TORTOISE

By AUDREY NOËL HUME

THE first hint that Mrs. Callaway (known usually as Mrs. C.) was not an ordinary tortoise came only ten minutes after we first met, when she laid an egg on my husband's lap in the crowded London bus which was taking her to join an already large chelonian family. It was, however, only the first of many incidents which have convinced me that she is that most interesting of creatures—a character. Yet she looks exactly like thousands of her fellow North African tortoises, which may perhaps account for her determination to be different at all costs.

After the egg episode, Mrs. C. appeared to be quite normal and to have settled down well into her new home. Admittedly she ate twice as much as any of her companions, but at least she went to bed at the right time and in the right place, and she kept off the flower-beds. Then came a day when her usual placid behaviour gave way to angry frustration and the desire to push her way through the fence which divided us from an area of long grass and leafy shrubs. I assumed that after all she was not satisfied with her new home, and I hoped

send her back to sleep. I little realised that I was setting the pattern for all future winters in the life of Mrs. C., as from that year she has refused to hibernate, however cold the weather. While her companions fall asleep quickly and quietly, she scratches about in her box, until I am forced to admit defeat, and she is carried indoors to enjoy the luxury of central-heated rooms, coal fires and tender, hot-house lettuce. Once she is safely inside, Mrs. C. settles quickly into a daily routine, which she observes with almost clock-like precision. Her day's activity begins late, for she prefers to remain asleep until the early afternoon, or at least until the lounge coal fire is lit. I cannot discover whether she listens for the sound of crackling wood or watches for the door of that room to remain open, an event which takes place only when the fire is adequately protected by a heavy immovable guard. Whatever the method, this crafty lady is through the door and across to the fire within minutes.

Occasionally the larger tortoises, with their correspondingly longer legs, are able to reach the hearth first, but this in no way worries

Unfortunately Mrs. C.'s babies, in spite of sun-ray lamps, heated vivaria and special foods did not survive for more than 18 months, by which time her own life was in danger. She developed a form of cancer of the mouth, a disease which manifests itself as a yellow sponge-like growth, and is a great killer among tortoises, to which it is confined. I took her to veterinary surgeons and animal clinics all over London, but everywhere the answer was the same: "There is no cure." After many hours of thought I decided to have her put to sleep the next evening; but then the name of a noted herpetologist came into my mind. The next morning I telephoned him. He agreed that the situation looked black, but suggested a treatment which, as far as he knew, had never actually been tried. It would be exceedingly painful at first for Mrs. C., and there was always the chance that she would not co-operate, but at least it seemed that there was some hope.

Every tortoise-owner knows the immense problem of opening his pet's mouth; but, as though Mrs. C. knew that we were fighting for her life, she allowed us to do this with only



MRS. CALLAWAY, THE AUTHOR'S NORTH AFRICAN TORTOISE, EATING LETTUCE. "She is that most interesting of creatures—a character." (Right) MRS. CALLAWAY (second from left) RELAXING WITH OTHER TORTOISES ROUND A WINTER FIRE. "When she is thus settled, all is peace for an hour or two."



that the mood would soon pass. The error of my assumption was revealed early the following morning, when she was seen to be depositing a clutch of four round white eggs in a nest in the rockery. When she had covered these up and retired to enjoy a good meal, the eggs were removed to a box of sand in the airing cupboard. Mrs. C. thereafter showed no further interest in roaming, and seems content with undertaking detailed investigations of the area within the fences.

A dinner party one October evening was thrown into confusion by the arrival of the first of Mrs. C.'s children—a fat little creature who was a perfect miniature of his mother, with a shell not as long as a penny. As soon as news of the baby spread, a number of newspapers asked to be allowed to take pictures of mother and baby. At first I was reluctant to arouse Mrs. C., who had been sleeping in her straw-filled bed for three or four days, but when I peered into her box I found that, although not fully awake, she had both eyes open. After a few minutes in front of a fire and a good feed of lettuce, she was ready to pose. Mother and baby were introduced before the cameras, and Mrs. C. seemed to swell with pride as she nuzzled her tiny son, who had been christened How. Three days passed before another egg yielded up Why under the eyes of Press and film cameras—the first time such an event had been recorded in this way.

By this time Mrs. C. had grown thoroughly accustomed to life indoors, and I decided not to

Mrs. C., who knows exactly how to get what she wants. She pushes them about until there is room for her to adopt her favourite posture, with shell and front legs on the hearth and with her baggy, gnarled hind legs dangling in space. When she is thus settled, all is peace for an hour or two, except for the occasional twitch of a leg or a prolonged yawn. Other tortoises may try to usurp her place, but any victory is only temporary, and an indignant Mrs. C. generally regains the lost ground within a matter of minutes.

In the middle of the evening Mrs. C. begins to feel peckish, and returns to the floor, opening her mouth at frequent intervals. This means that hunger has overcome her desire for sleep, and as a special concession she is allowed to have her supper—half a lettuce and several tomatoes—on a large plastic sheet before the fire. After this it is back to the hearth, until I think that it is time for her to be put to bed beside the hot-water-storage cylinder, a process which rarely causes her to wake up. However, once there she comes to life with surprising suddenness. Along the landing and into the bedroom she stumps, opening her mouth at frequent intervals, until in order to get a little peace I provide some more lettuce. When this snack is over, I take her back to her bed, only to find that some time later she is exploring the dark and silent house. Then I have to see that once more she returns to the warmth of the tank, and have to barricade her in with boxes and baskets.

occasional protests. The breathing apparatus of a tortoise is so constructed that, if the mouth is forced open for more than a few seconds, the creature begins to suffocate; so the treatment had to be done in small stages. It involved removing the actual growth, applications of penicillin, and constant mouth-washes throughout the day. Mrs. C. was a model patient. She had to be fed with shredded lettuce from a pair of tweezers and with milk and brandy from an eye-dropper, and had to be kept well away from all the other tortoises. After nine months her mouth was clear, we pronounced her cured and allowed her to lead a normal life once more.

For over six months she remained in good health and regained her former weight and high spirits. Then one evening a small yellow patch in one corner of her mouth showed that the cure had not been complete. Discouraged, but determined, we began again, but this time the attack was less severe; within a matter of weeks all was well and has remained so since.

Unlike most reptiles, Mrs. C. is the perfect photographer's model, and her ability to do the right thing at the right time has led to her appearing in two films, in one television programme, in many newspapers and on the cover of a book. She has one fault, however, and that is leaving unfertilized eggs in extraordinary places like the bathroom, on the landing and, on one occasion, in a pair of slippers. In all respects she is indeed a most singular tortoise.

Illustrations: Ivor Noel Hume

MOTORING NOTES

THE BRITISH GRAND PRIX

By J. EASON GIBSON

IN the ninth British Grand Prix, organised by the British Racing Drivers' Club and sponsored by the *Daily Express*, run last Saturday at Silverstone, Northamptonshire, the champion of the world Juan Fangio, of the Argentine, was victorious, and gained valuable points towards retaining his title for 1956. During his winning drive Fangio demonstrated once again the qualities which earned him his title—determination and the refusal to relax his efforts, even when all seems lost.

During the race, over 101 laps of the approximately 3-mile-long circuit, 300 miles, the lead was held successively by Hawthorn with a B.R.M., Moss in an Italian Maserati, and for approximately the last 100 miles by Fangio. Seldom has a race shown more clearly that

within much closer striking distance, and the order now is: Collins, Fangio, Behra and Moss, with 22, 21, 18 and 13.

From the start Hawthorn led with the B.R.M., and held this position for fifteen laps, and for a portion of this distance second place was held by Brooks's B.R.M., but Fangio came up to take second position. On the eighth lap, however, even Fangio made a mistake, and spun to a standstill on Beckett's Corner. This incident dropped him to sixth place, but far from giving up the struggle and relaxing the champion fought his way back through the field to occupy second place behind Moss, who had supplanted the B.R.M. drivers. The gap between Moss and Fangio remained more-or-less constant, until Moss was forced to stop for

after the damaged wheel had been changed. The officials, however, were not satisfied that the car was in a fit state to continue so the driver was shown the black flag. De Portago, anxious to qualify as a finisher at least, halted his car just before the finishing line, so that as soon as the checkered flag—indicating the end of the race—was flown he could push his car over the line. This switching of drivers produced the unusual result that de Portago shared the honour of second place with Collins, and tenth place with Castellotti.

The winning speed of Fangio's Ferrari was 98.65 m.p.h., and, although this is approximately 4 m.p.h. slower than the speed averaged by Moss with a Vanwall at Silverstone in May, it has to be remembered that the earlier event was over only 180 miles, whereas last Saturday's race was for the full Grand Prix distance of 300 miles. Of the eleven finishers only two cars were British; a Connaught in fourth place driven by Fairman, and a Cooper-Bristol driven by Gerard. Of the remaining nine cars eight were Italian, and one was French. The performance put up by the B.R.M. was particularly disappointing for followers of the sport. It was the fastest car on the circuit; the team leader, Hawthorn, has repeatedly shown that he is the equal of either Fangio or Moss, but it was retired with a fault which seems difficult to excuse. Whereas such cars as Ferrari and Maserati appear in a race almost every week-end throughout the racing season, B.R.M. appear only occasionally. What seems difficult to understand is the failure of those responsible for the B.R.M. to take advantage of available circuits to carry out proper full-scale tests. I think I am correct in believing that before Saturday's 300-mile Grand Prix neither a prototype nor the actual racing cars had been submitted to a test over 300 miles under the closest possible simulation of racing conditions.

Any one of the four drivers leading the World's Championship table could be the winner, such is the uncertainty of racing. Fangio has already held the championship on three occasions; in 1951, 1954, and 1955, and there are many followers of the sport who, convinced that the Argentine driver intends to retire at the end of this season, would like to see him win the title just once more. On the other hand both Moss and Collins have earned the right at least to hope that the title can, for the first time, be awarded to a British driver. There is no doubt that in Collins, Hawthorn and Moss this country has three drivers superior to any driver in the world, excluding Fangio, and it is possible that, if the championship could be taken by a British driver, an incentive would be created sufficiently strong to urge those British constructors interested in Grand Prix racing to make the final effort required to enable the title to be won in 1957 by a British driver on a British car. It is far from impossible, despite the disappointments of last Saturday, but the plans and the necessary steps should be taken now, to avoid any danger of cars coming to the starting line not fully prepared for the important events of the racing calendar.

Study of the tabulated results shows that only Fangio covered the full 300 miles, and that some finishers were many laps behind.

FINAL PLACINGS

Place	Driver	Car	Speed Laps m.p.h.
1st	FANGIO	Ferrari	98.65 101
2nd	DE PORTAGO COLLINS	Ferrari	96.88 100
3rd	BEHRA	Maserati	96.25 99
4th	FAIRMAN	Connaught	94.91 98
5th	GOULD	Maserati	94.31 97
6th	VILLORESI	Maserati	92.54 96
7th	PERDISA	Maserati	92.01 95
8th	GODIA	Maserati	91.74 94
9th	MANZON	Gordini	91.72 94
10th	CASSELLOTTI DE PORTAGO	Ferrari	89.79 92
11th	GERARD	Cooper Bristol	85.70 88
Fastest Lap:		Maserati	102.104 m.p.h.



JUAN FANGIO, WORLD CHAMPION DRIVER AND WINNER OF THE BRITISH GRAND PRIX, CORNERING AT SILVERSTONE WITH HIS FERRARI

victory does not necessarily go to the fastest, as three cars all British achieved faster times through a specially timed one-tenth of a mile section than did any of the foreign cars which filled the first three places. The three fastest cars through the short timed section were a B.R.M., a Vanwall and another B.R.M., driven respectively by Hawthorn, Schell and Brooks, and their speeds were 137.4 m.p.h., 136.88 m.p.h. and 136.36 m.p.h. The fastest speed obtained by Fangio was only 134.83 m.p.h., while Moss's Maserati, which held the lead for so long, achieved 133.83 m.p.h. In spite of the fact that both the B.R.M. and the Vanwall proved their superior speed, one is forced to the conclusion that shortcomings of design, or development, handicap them as compared with their more experienced rivals from Italy.

The three British constructors competing in the Grand Prix were B.R.M., Connaught and Vanwall, with three cars each. Of these nine cars only one Connaught finished, in fourth place, behind the three leading Italian cars. Before the first lap was completed one Vanwall and one B.R.M. were retired, the first with transmission trouble, and the second with engine trouble. Although the two remaining B.R.M.s held first and second places for some time, both were eliminated with similar trouble. Hawthorn's car was retired owing to the failure of a universal joint oil seal, while the remaining car crashed and it is possible that failure of the same seal allowed the universal joint to seize, and so jam the transmission. The two Vanwalls left in the race suffered from intermittent troubles, which caused repeated pit stops, and both retired finally.

Before the Grand Prix the positions in the World's Championship table gave the leading four drivers as: Collins, Behra, Fangio and Moss, with 19, 14, 13 and 12 marks. The result of last Saturday's race has been to bring Fangio

fuel. Just as the British driver restarted from his pit Fangio came into the pit straight, and the gap between the two was only one of two seconds. Moss replied to the Argentine's challenge, and slowly he widened the gap to seven seconds.

The crowd, disappointed at the failure of both the B.R.M. and Vanwall, were now obviously supporting Moss, and praying that for once the bad luck from which he has suffered would not interfere and prevent him from gaining the win he so clearly deserved. But, after two-thirds of the race had been run, Moss was forced to halt at his pit again, with ignition trouble, and this delayed him enough to allow Fangio through to a comfortable lead, but worse was to follow. Moss was compelled to halt for more work by his mechanics, which gave Fangio the opportunity to gain a lead of just over a lap, and from then until the end of the race the world's champion was beyond reach. Just before the end Moss lost the chance of earning essential championship marks for his second place when he had to stop out on the circuit, with a split fuel tank. Second place was now filled by Collins, who had taken over the Ferrari originally driven by de Portago, after his own had been forced out with mechanical trouble. This is permitted by international regulations, and is quite a common practice, as there are obviously many occasions when it is better to pay the time penalty of halting a car to replace the driver with another who may be better able to climb higher in the final results.

Although de Portago was ousted from his car by the Scuderia Ferrari team manager, his day's racing was not over. The fourth Ferrari driver, Castellotti, hit the protective bank at Club Corner, and, as well as damaging his car, injured his left arm sufficiently for him to relinquish the wheel to de Portago, who restarted

PRELUDE TO THE OLYMPIC GAMES

By O. L. OWEN

FORM mattered even more than titles at the latest championship meeting of the Amateur Athletic Association. It was not, of course, the first time that a place in the British team for the next Olympic Games had been an over-riding incentive, but there was a difference. In 1952, for instance, Helsinki had been only a month or so ahead. This year, the Games at Melbourne will not be started until November and clearly a lot can happen between now and then.

The Americans have already held their final Olympic try-out of athletes, but our selectors and those of the Continent are not yet committed. There were surprises at the White City last week-end and there may be more to come if, for example, the absent D. A. G. Pirie soon recovers the fitness and stamina

might have set, but eventually was himself killed by it.

Norris's loping stride suddenly carried him into a lead of 25 yards at the end of 3½ miles and this lead he steadily multiplied by three before, with a mile to go, Sando at last appeared to realise his mistake in having let a stayer like Norris get so far ahead. At any rate, with half a mile to go, Norris's big lead had been more than halved, while, at the bell, Sando was travelling so fast that one really began to wonder if the impossible was not about to happen. Up the final straight, Sando fairly raced after a now definitely slowing Norris, and it was by a bare five yards that the latter won in the new British record time of 28 mins. 13.6 secs.

Sando finished only 3.5 sec. behind, so that he too was well inside the record. Foord ran up to

even the superb White City track was gradually becoming rain-soaked and sticky in places.

What did the race mean without Pirie, who had won the title in 1953 in the absence of Chataway? The latter clearly was not yet at his best on Saturday. The chances are that the race encouraged, not discouraged, Chataway, who even may have been pleasantly surprised at his own form and spurred to the need for the most rigorous preparation if he is to make the long journey to Melbourne as a real British hope. Ibbotson, for his part, was equally entitled to a feeling of encouragement as well as pride in beating a man like Chataway.

The final of the Mile might have been a faster and better race if the arrangement of the heats had not left over eleven men to run in it. Nothing of note occurred in the course of a



G. D. IBBOTSON (*left*) WINNING THE THREE MILE RACE FROM C. J. CHATAWAY DURING THE A.A.A. CHAMPIONSHIPS HELD AT THE WHITE CITY. (*Right*) THE FINISH OF THE 100 YARDS: J. R. YOUNG (*right*) WAS FIRST, T. A. ERINLE (*left*) SECOND AND E. R. SANDSTROM (*middle*) THIRD

which enabled him to beat a world record in Norway recently. Nor, obviously, can one accept the defeats of men like C. J. Chataway, B. S. Hewson, J. I. Disley, D. J. N. Johnson—in his latest experiment, the Mile—F. J. Parker and R. D. Henderson as anything like conclusive evidence of their respective chances in the near future.

Rain did its best to ruin the meeting, but thanks to the modern track makers, athletics can now claim to be an all-weather sport, and even the Field Events, which are less fortunately situated, away out in the middle of the arena, refuse to be soaked out of effective activity. The presence of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh on Friday honoured not only the opening day of the tournament but one of its finest achievements and most exciting finishes. The Six Miles is an event which has steadily gained in interest since one of its more notable winners, J. H. Peters, developed into a record-breaking Marathon runner. Pirie, too, not only won the title from 1951 to 1953, but each time cut down the time so that his third victory produced a British All Comers' record of 28 mins. 19.4 secs. That still was some 25.4 secs. short of the world best time set up as recently as last January by the great Australian runner, D. Stephens, and was hardly likely to be excelled in Friday's conditions.

Pirie himself had had to withdraw from the race through injury, but there remained, in addition to K. L. Norris and P. B. Driver, the champion of 1954, that splendidly resilient near-champion, F. D. Sando, and a well-fancied newcomer in H. V. Foord, from Brighton. Foord, in fact, started at a faster rate than even Pirie

beat Driver for third place and his time of 28 mins. 30.6 secs. would have won any A.A.A. Six Miles up to 1953, the date of Pirie's record.

Something even more exciting occurred during the closing stages of the Three Miles, on Saturday, when the two duellists proved to be Chataway, a popular hero as well as joint holder of the British record, and the man he decisively beat last year, G. D. Ibbotson, of the R.A.F. and Yorkshire. Chataway had shared his best time—a world record for a brief while—with F. D. Green, in 1954, when that runner just beat him for the title. Now, he was having his first really serious run of the season against a much-improved Ibbotson who had learned from Chataway himself the vital importance of a sudden, strong finish.

Chataway, on this occasion, was shadowing Ibbotson in his well-known manner when he attempted one of his equally well-known "killer" spurts in the last quarter. It was not, however, at 300 yards but about 200 yards from the tape and, what was more important, not nearly so telling as usual. Chataway, indeed, had to labour hard in forcing his way in front and, although he increased his lead a little in the run home, the new Ibbotson was fighting fit enough to strike back. Chataway's courage did not fail him, but he was not yet trained to the pitch of holding off such a challenge as that made by Ibbotson in the last 50 yards. With his head back and arms working desperately Chataway was beaten on the tape rather as Green had beaten him in 1954. In this way, Chataway again had to rest content with sharing the winner's time, which if not quite a record, represented a terrific effort in the conditions, for

singularly slow half-mile—nor, indeed, until after the bell, when K. Wood decided to bring matters to a head by suddenly dashing from the rear into a pronounced lead. Wood was not to be overtaken even by Hewson, who, like Chataway and others of note, is not yet keyed up to full championship, let alone Olympic, standards and so lost his title. Johnson in such a slow-run race, surely should have produced a half-miler's finish, but he ended up a tame fifth. One would have preferred seeing him contest a splendid finish in the Half-mile, with a new and worthy champion in M. A. Rawson. Not that Johnson is incapable of running a fast mile. The disappointment in the Half on this occasion was R. D. Henderson, who, in 1955, had finished in the same time as Johnson.

The sprints were notable for the victory of the eighteen-year-old J. R. Young, of Bishop Vesey's Grammar School. Young looks more like a sturdy type of Rugby three-quarter—which, in fact, he is—than a sprinter, but none the less won the title with the utmost determination in 9.9 secs., a great effort at his age and in the conditions. K. T. Wheeler, as one expected, was the new Quarter champion, and a good one too, and, not for the first time in recent seasons, E. Shirley outstayed Disley in a steeplechase over 3,000 metres.

The final of the 120 yards hurdles produced a superb race in which P. B. Hildreth returned to his finest form by winning in 14.5 secs. Three others, E. F. Kinsella, the Irishman, F. J. Parker, champion three times in the last five years, and I. Opris, of Rumania, finished only 1/10 sec. behind. The judges managed to place them but not the stop watches.



L.—FROM THE NORTH-EAST: THE MAIN BUILDING ON THE LEFT, BONOMI'S DINING-ROOM BAY IN THE MIDDLE AND THE OFFICE WING ON THE RIGHT

NUNWICK, NORTHUMBERLAND—II

THE HOME OF MR. G. H. ALLGOOD

By GORDON NARES

The house was built about 1750 by Sir Lancelot Allgood and enlarged in 1829 for his grandson by Ignatius Bonomi, the Durham architect. It contains a notable collection of 18th-century furniture.

LANCELOT ALLGOOD married his cousin Jane Allgood in 1738, and through her acquired Nunwick, on the west bank of the North Tyne River, where he soon built a house. The date when he began building is uncertain, but it was probably shortly after the conclusion of the '45, and for reasons that were given last week it seems likely that the house was finished by 1752. It must have been at about this time that the Allgoods had their portraits painted by an anonymous artist (Figs. 4 and 5). Jane Allgood, with flowers in her hair and an ermine collar to her dress, is holding a piece of the floral needlework for which she was renowned, while her husband points with one hand to a drawing of the south elevation of Nunwick and with the other to his breast, almost as though to proclaim his own authorship of the design.

Lancelot Allgood was a man of attainments in the political and administrative world—they earned him a knighthood in 1760—and there seems no reason why he should not have had also a knowledge of architecture, especially as it is known that he made the Grand Tour in France and Italy between 1736 and 1738. Like many another 18th-century country gentleman, he might have been competent to design his own house with the professional assistance of one of the master-builders from Newcastle or Durham, which at this time or a little later were to produce men like James Paine's disciple, John Bell, John Dodds, David Stephenson, Robert and William Newton. The last two, indeed, must have been

known to Sir Lancelot, for in 1763 they rebuilt part of the church at Simonburn, in which parish Nunwick lies. Robert was either the father or uncle of William, who was born in 1730.

It must be mentioned, however, that there is a tradition that the architect of

Nunwick was William Adam, father of the brothers Adam. It is curious that his name should be specifically recorded rather than that of his son Robert, to whom so many buildings have been unjustifiably ascribed. This might lend weight to the attribution, and William Adam was, after all, the pre-eminent architect in the north at that time, when it would have been far easier to go from Northumberland to Edinburgh than to London. As against that, there is no evidence, as far as I know, that he ever built anything south of the Border, though Mr. John Fleming has discovered that he did pay one or two visits to London.

The main reason, however, for being dubious about the attribution of Nunwick to William Adam is that of style. His designs, which are engraved in *Vitravivus Scoticus*, reveal a Baroque character, coarse but vibrant, that is very different in feeling from the calm Palladianism of the main block of Nunwick (left of Fig. 1). Nor does it seem possible that the man who designed the interior of, say, the Drum could have been responsible for—or, indeed, have had sympathy for—the rather sparing plasterwork with Rococo and Chinoiserie flavour that one sees at Nunwick on, for example, the ceiling of the staircase (Fig. 2).

It must be confessed that the William Adam ascription is difficult to uphold, and, moreover, it must be remembered that he died in 1748, some years before Nunwick was finished.

Whatever uncertainty may surround the designer of the original buildings, there can be no doubt that the dining-room in the projecting



2.—THE STAIRCASE, WITH ROCOCO PLASTERWORK



3.—THE DRAWING-ROOM IN THE EAST FRONT

bay of the east front (Fig. 1) was designed by Ignatius Bonomi, for preserved at Nunwick are a number of letters from him dated 1829 and '30, and also a set of drawings showing alternative designs not only for the dining-room but for the drawing-room (Fig. 3) and also for a new stable block, which seems to have been intended to replace the existing office court that lies to the northwest of the main building (right of Fig. 1).

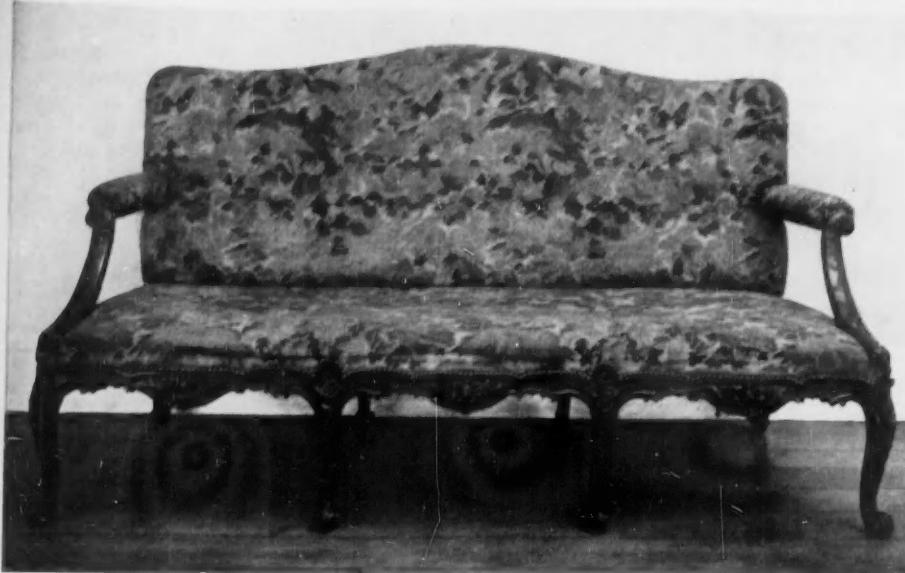
The original stables lay round a quadrangle to the south, in which position they are shown on two anonymous plans for landscaping the grounds evidently drawn in the 1760s. Among the documents that survive at Nunwick is a rough sketch plan of one side of the existing stables, which stand well to the west of the house on the far side of the road from Hexham to Wark. This plan is not signed, but it is dated December, 1798. It seems, therefore, that the old stables were pulled down and the new ones built in that year, and this would explain the following reference in *A View of the County of Northumberland* (1811), where, writing of Nunwick, the author says: "Lately the appearance of this delightful retreat has been much improved by removing the stables, which stood too near the front of the mansion." Bonomi's

new stables unfortunately never got beyond the drawing-board, but, as we saw last week, he probably added the porch on the south front, and he almost certainly lowered the windows on the east front, which now come down to the ground.

Ignatius Bonomi was the elder son of Joseph Bonomi, an eminent architect who had the distinction of being mentioned in Jane Austen's *Sense and Sensibility*. His younger son, Joseph, to whom Angelica Kauffmann stood sponsor, was a sculptor and orientalist, and was curator of the Soane Museum from



4 and 5.—PORTRAITS OF SIR LANCELOT ALGOOD AND HIS WIFE JANE, PAINTED BY AN UNKNOWN ARTIST ABOUT 1750



6 and 7.—SETTEE AND ONE OF A SET OF SIX CHAIRS. Part of a large set made about 1750 that includes stools, card-tables, torchères and firescreens. The chairs have their original needlework

1861 until his death in 1878. Ignatius Bonomi practised in Durham and shared with his rival John Dobson, of Newcastle, many of the most important commissions in the north of England in the first half of the 19th century. He was concerned in the repair of Durham Cathedral and in the designing of more than twenty churches. He must also have worked on numerous country houses, although this side of his activities is not so well documented. Mr. H. M. Colvin records in his *Dictionary of English Architects* that he worked at Lambton and Dinsdale, in Durham, and at Hesleyside, a few miles up the North Tyne from Nunwick.

Like most other architects of his period, Bonomi was capable of working in both the Classical and the Gothic manner. His projected stables at Nunwick were in the Neo-classical style, but for the exterior



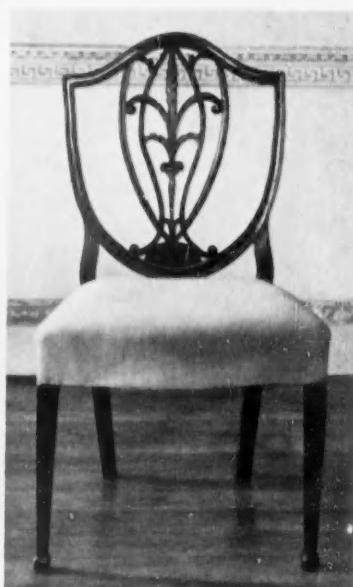
8.—ONE OF A PAIR OF MAHOGANY CARD-TABLES OF ABOUT 1750. Compare Figs. 6 and 7

of the new dining-room bay he carefully repeated the architraves and string-courses of the adjoining Palladian block (Fig. 1). The interior of the dining-room, as we saw last week, is decorated in a restrained Neo-classical style, and so is the adjoining drawing-room (Fig. 3), with its gilt enrichment in the cornice and pelmets to the crimson curtains, large mahogany doors and green-painted walls, on which hang a pair of gilt Rococo pier-glasses and two large Italian *capricci*.

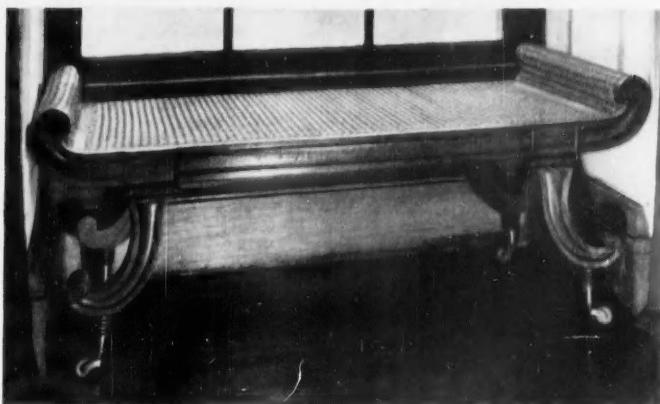
The drawing-room contains some of the most notable of the many distinguished pieces of furniture at Nunwick. Most remarkable of all is a set of two card-tables, six chairs, three stools, a settee, three torchères and two firescreens *en suite*. From their Rococo decoration these pieces can be dated about 1750, and it is reasonable to assume that they were ordered by Sir



9.—MAHOGANY FIRESCREEN AND TORCHERE OF ABOUT 1750. (Middle) 10.—FIRESCREEN, WITH NEEDLEWORK BY LADY ALLGOOD. (Right) 11.—LADY ALLGOOD'S SPINNING-WHEEL



12.—MAHOGANY CHINOISERIE TEA-TABLE OF ABOUT 1760. (Middle) 13.—THE TABLE OPENED. (Right) 14.—MAHOGANY CHAIR OF ABOUT 1780



15.—EARLY-19TH-CENTURY CANE-SEATED WINDOW STOOL

Lancelot in anticipation of his house being finished. Their craftsmanship denies a provincial origin, and as Sir Lancelot represented the county of Northumberland at Westminster between 1748 and 1753 it seems probable that they were made for him in London, whence they would doubtless have been taken to Newcastle by sea.

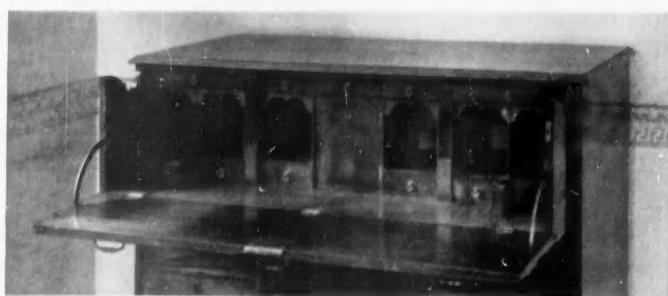
The card-tables, one of which is illustrated in Fig. 8, have serpentine fronts and graceful cabriole legs carved with acanthus on the knee and terminating in scroll feet. The swirling apron-piece has characteristic Rococo ornament—with C-scrolls, diaper pattern and a central cabochon—that is very close in feeling and detail to the carving on the apron-piece of a wardrobe in the Victoria and Albert Museum which Mr. R. W. Symonds has attributed to Giles Grendey, the London cabinet-maker who was active between 1725 and 1770 and was Master of the Joiners' Companys in 1766 (see *In Search of Giles Grendey*, COUNTRY LIFE, November 30, 1951). This same Rococo decoration is repeated also on the settee (Fig. 6), chairs (Fig. 7) and stools, which have rather sturdier cabriole legs than the card-tables, but similar scroll feet and acanthus on the knee. The supports to the upholstered arms of the settee are carved with tendrils of foliage on their outer face.

The chairs are covered in needlework worked in tent stitch and long-and-short stitch by Lady Allgood: indeed, in her portrait she seems to be holding one of the pieces of needlework for this set (Fig. 4). She was responsible also for the needlework on the pair of firescreens (Fig. 9) that form part of the same set as the chairs, and also for the needlework of rather different vein on the larger firescreen illustrated in Fig. 10. Another relic of Lady Allgood's activities is a small mahogany spinning-wheel (Fig. 11), which according to tradition she had made so that it would go into her coach and enable her to make good use of the hours of travelling that might otherwise be wasted. A similar spinning-wheel, except that it has a small drawer beneath the gallery, is illustrated in Mr. Ralph Edwards's revised edition of *The Dictionary of English Furniture* (Vol. 3, p. 143). This is dated about 1780, but Lady Allgood's example must have been made rather earlier, as she died at Bath in 1778.

There are several other pieces of furniture at Nunwick that merit attention. Outstanding among these is the mahogany tea-table in the Chinese taste of about 1760 shown in Figs. 12 and 13. This is in the drawing-room, but it has been in the house only a comparatively short time. In the adjoining little drawing-room is an interesting knee-hole

bureau in faded mahogany (Fig. 17), which dates probably from Sir Lancelot Allgood's time. The two upper rows of drawers are dummy, and can be pulled down to reveal the writing-flap (Fig. 16). The outer fluted divisions between the drawers of the interior pull out to form candle-holders. Also in the little drawing-room is part of a set of delicate mahogany chairs with vase-shaped splats decorated with acanthus and laurel leaves (Fig. 14). They date from about 1780. The 19th century is represented by the cane-seated stools in the windows of the library (Fig. 15). These have slightly splayed sides, so that they fit neatly into the window embrasures. Originally they stood in the drawing-room, so it is probable that they were made at about the time of Bonomi's alterations in 1829.

Bonomi's client was Robert Lancelot Allgood, grandson of Sir Lancelot and son of James Allgood, who married Martha, second daughter of Christopher Reed, of Chipchase Castle. Robert Lancelot Allgood was the great-grandfather of the present owner of Nunwick, to whom I am much indebted for help in the preparation of these articles.



16 and 17.—MAHOGANY KNEE-HOLE BUREAU WITH DUMMY DRAWERS THAT FALL TO REVEAL (above) THE WRITING-FLAP

THE ORIGINS OF DRESSAGE

By H. WYNMALEN

THIS term dressage relates to the systematic method of schooling recognised as the most effective by leading equestrian nations of the world. It is the method on which cavalry instruction of practically every nation has been based. Its principles were developed over the centuries by generations of eminent horsemen of many nations, including Englishmen of considerable note.

Dressage is not, as is so often assumed, a collection of principles applicable to some fanciful form of high school riding. It applies, on the contrary, to every grade of horsemanship, from leading, mounting and breaking the young horse to making and perfecting him for whatever purpose his trainer may have in mind, from the humblest to the most advanced. One recognises the low school, in which dressage is the methodical means to an end—for the hack, the hunter, the cross-country horse—and the high school, or *équitation académique*, in which dressage becomes an end in itself—the study of the highest possible degree of schooling the horse. Or that, at any rate, is the modern position, since there has been a time when high school training itself had a direct bearing on the use of the horse in armed combat.

It is not known at which period in the history of riding a reasoned method of the art was first evolved. But there is a record of a book on horsemanship written by Simonides of Athens in the 6th century B.C. and, though its text has not survived, the very fact that it was written indicates that, at that time, some form of theory did, in fact, exist. The date of Xenophon's famous treatise on equitation, *Hippike*, is only slightly later, at the beginning of the 5th century B.C., and it may be assumed from the comparative closeness of dates and the unlikelihood of any material change in the use of the horse in the meantime that a definite method of schooling—a form of dressage—was recognised in Greece at this early date.

The method described by Xenophon ranks as dressage in that it aims at physical and mental development of the animal and at the establishment of a bond of confidence and mutual understanding between mount and man. Essentially his principles vary little from those followed to-day. They apply in particular to a form of combined training for the cavalry

horse and hunter and cover much the same ground as is needed for the three-day-event horse of to-day.

There are no records from Xenophon's time until the 16th century of our era. It is probable that the Romans, who adopted Greek culture in almost every field and maintained a numerous and efficient cavalry, used a system of schooling their horses based upon the Greek example.

Of the dark ages following the fall of the Roman Empire nothing is known. In the later Middle Ages the great warhorse appears, which, clad in iron and carrying an ironclad knight, fulfilled a task resembling that of the tank in modern warfare. That meant a heavy horse, not suitable for advanced training and, having regard to his limited field of action, not in need of it.

The invention of the long bow, followed by that of firearms, put paid to the safety of the cumbersome knight and horse in armour. Mobility became the keynote of comparative safety and success. Mobility meant lighter horses trained to manoeuvre easily at the rider's command. These altered conditions gave rise to the re-birth of a reasoned theory of equitation. Records show that this may be dated at around the beginning of the 16th century. Laurentius Rusius published his *Hippiatrica sive Marescalia* in Paris in 1533. Cesar Fiasci founded the Neapolitan school and in 1539 published his treatise on horsemanship. This school provided the real impetus. Its fame spread throughout Europe and riders and noblemen of almost every nationality flocked thither. There are many interesting books from the school's leading masters and followers: *L'Ecole du Sieur Grison*, *Le Cavalerie François* by de la Broue, *L'Art de monter à Cheval* by de Pluvine.

De la Broue and de Pluvine made a great name for themselves in France and the new art of horsemanship became the fashion of courtiers, soldiers, princes and kings themselves. In the



MRS. LIS HARTEL AND JUBILEE, LEADING DRESSAGE PERFORMERS

early years of the 17th century the horse's schooling in the exercises of combat, parade and pomp reached a high standard. Not much later Louis XIV founded the Ecole de Versailles, the forerunner of the still existing cavalry school of Saumur. De la Guérinière was its greatest master. In the 18th century, the age of elegance, the art found further development, encouraged by the courts of Versailles, of Austria and of other countries. From the 19th century many famous names spring to mind, Comte d'Aure, Hundorf, Baucher, Steimbrecht and L'Hotte.

In England, too, the fashion had been followed. Set in the 17th century by the Duke of Newcastle, the example was followed a century later by Richard Berenger, Gentleman of the Horse to his Majesty, who left a valuable book in *The History and Art of Horsemanship*, published in London in 1771.

The modern school may perhaps best be dated from 1912, in which year equestrian sports were incorporated for the first time in the series of modern Olympic Games, which had themselves been revived in 1894. In the first equestrian competitions, held at Stockholm, ten nations took part, Great Britain among them. The competitions were the Three-day Event (*Concours Complet*), the Grand Prix de Dressage and the Nations Show Jumping, for individuals and for teams, run on virtually the same lines as they are to-day.

It had become apparent at Stockholm, and also Antwerp in 1920, where eighteen nations took part, Britain once more among them, that these international competitions required a carefully compiled set of rules acceptable to all nations and governed by a suitable international body. This led in 1921, on the proposal of Baron Pierre de Coubertin, President of the International Olympic Committee, and on the initiative of Sweden and of France, to the formation of the F.E.I. (*Fédération Equestre Internationale*). It is this body, to which the equestrian nations of five continents now belong, which governs the sport, appoints the judges and lays down lines of guidance for dressage as we know it today. The Federation has had the benefit of the specialised experience of the equestrian nations leading in this field, such as France, Germany, Sweden and Switzerland, and has been able to do much in creating a reasonably close similarity of view in the international field.

In Britain the revival of interest in



WINNERS OF THE INDIVIDUAL MEDALS IN THE GRAND PRIX DE DRESSAGE IN THE RECENT OLYMPIC GAMES AT STOCKHOLM. (Left to right) MRS. LIS HARTEL, OF DENMARK, ON JUBILEE (silver medal), MAJOR HENRI DE ST. CYR, OF SWEDEN, ON JULI (gold medal), AND MISS LISELOTT LINSENHOFF, OF GERMANY, ON ADULAR (bronze medal)

methodical schooling is of recent date. The initiative went out from the British Riding Club, formed by a few enthusiasts under the presidency of Colonel V. D. S. Williams in 1936. Since the end of the last war the British Horse Society and its dressage committee have taken over the task, to which much thought and energy have been devoted with considerable results.

There are now in this country quite a number of competitions in which riders and horses may gain experience and guidance. The requirements imposed begin with simple tests intending to drive home that the initial schooling of horse and rider must follow sound lines if a correct basis for further development is to be laid. Without such sound initial basis ultimate progress will always be jeopardised. Then there are examinations of gradually increasing difficulty which lead up to the requirements expected from an international three-day-event horse, and these conform more or less to the top grade of the low school. If reached, they result in a supple, calm, obedient and courageous horse, ready at all times—and confident—to do his rider's bidding.

A CAT BY THE FIRESIDE

ACAT may have only nine lives and not more than nine tails, but—so long and lovingly have lexicographers toyed with the word—it can have at least a dozen meanings. Every pedant knows that the cat to which Richard Whittington, three times Lord Mayor of London, owed his fortune was a medieval coastal freight ship, or perhaps merely an *achal*, one of those lucky buys which the magnificent merchant pulled off now and then—two etymological improvisations rejected with scorn by right-thinking patrons of pantomime who delight in the spectacle of a handsome principal boy with a huge comic mouser at his or her high heels.

Students of ancient warfare know the kind of cat which gave soldiers the idea of mobile armour—the overhead shield, distant progenitor of the tank, beneath which a squad of besiegers, in comparative safety, could bring their battering-rams, or powder-barrels, right up against the enemy's castle wall. The answer to that was another cat—a baulk of timber garnished with iron spikes, hurled down from the battlements.

Sailors of the windjammer age (though none too sure of its derivation) had a cat or cat-head, the projecting beam on either side of a ship's bow, where her bower anchor swung clear of the side before it was let go. They had their cat boat, too—no connection, seemingly, with Dick Whittington's merchant ship, but a small craft with a single mast stepped well

The progress made by British riders in this field during the past eight years has been striking. There is no question but that the performances of dressage seen at Badminton and elsewhere in 1949 and during the early '50s were, with very few exceptions, poor and in some instances almost bordered on the ridiculous. The standard was, at any rate, much below international level. This is no longer so. Truly poor performances are now seldom seen and a nucleus of leading riders have, in fact, reached a good international standard. This is borne out by the remarkable success of British individuals and teams in recent international competitions at Badminton, Basle, Windsor, Turin and finally at Stockholm, where the British team won the Olympic gold medal for the first time in history—and did so by a considerable margin.

Gratifying though these results are, there is as yet no ground for complacency; there still is a suspicion that in some cases studiously acquired routine is more evident than true mastery of technique. There are as yet only a few riders able to display competence in the more difficult exercises demanded by the Prix

forward. Dictionaries have disagreed for a century or more whether the ketch got its name from such—though it must have changed its rig if it did. It is a moot point, also, among West Country students of topography whether Plymouth's Catwater was so named because the mouth of the Plym was once a favourite haven for such little craft as these; or whether those pundits are to be taken seriously who, mindful that a castle once stood here, declare the name of the inlet is a rustic Devon translation of *Chat-eau*. One more cat the sailors shared, in the "good old days," with landsmen—the flogging cat with its nine tails.

Boys had their tip cat, the sharpened bit of wood about the size and substance of a cricket-bail, which figured rather dangerously for the passer-by—in the street games of a couple of generations ago. Girls beguiled their playtime with a gentler cat, whose cradle—a cratch cradle, a manger cradle for the infant Saviour—they plaited with string between their outstretched fingers. One must not forget the ordinary cat—*felis* more or less *domestica*.

Last of the dozen, we come to a little cat—hardly more than a kitten if size is the criterion, but quite venerable if it comes to age—that used to stand beside the open kitchen fire to keep the plates warm. This interesting little piece of ironmongery is, alas! seldom to be found in museums. It is described, in such dictionaries as condescend to notice it, as "a double trivet or tripod having six feet; so called,

St. Georges, where the finer points of riding become the true object of study. But some are actually reaching out for the highest spur of the ladder, which is found in the exigencies of the Grand Prix de Dressage.

It is undoubtedly true that the interest of the riding public at large has increased in step with the progress of our riders. And not only their interest but with it their degree of knowledge and of appreciation of the difficulties involved. Interested public support is a great encouragement to riders and of real benefit to further progress. So let everyone who can support the various competitions, large and small, which are held up and down the country, and in particular that magnificent festival of the horse, organised every year by the British Horse Society, the International Horse Show.

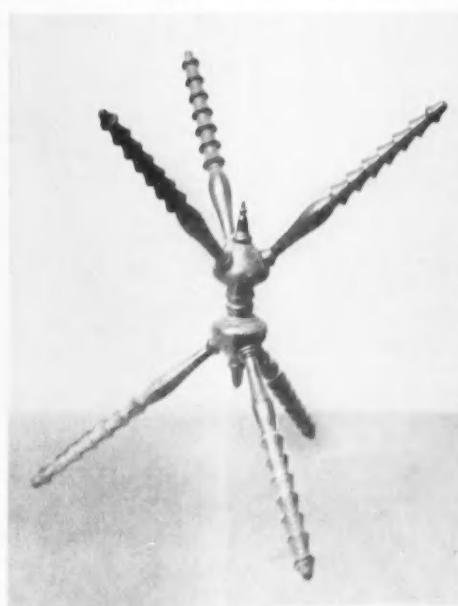
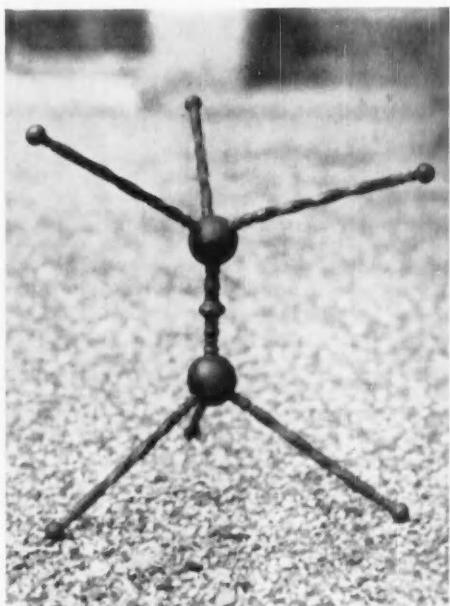
Dressage competitions of varying degree of difficulty, including combined training and a Prix St. Georges, may be seen on Saturday next at Hanstead House, Bricket Wood, Hertfordshire, by courtesy of Miss Gladys Yule. The winner of the Prix St. Georges will demonstrate at the White City on Wednesday, July 25.

By R. F. JOHNSON

perhaps, from falling, as it is said of the cat, always on its legs."

It is, so to say, the peaceful cousin of the caltrop, that horrid implement of war, bane of the cavalry, which consisted of an iron ball from which four spikes projected, so that whichever way it was tossed it presented one spike to cripple the enemy horse. Whichever way it is tossed, the peaceful fireside cat, its six feet radiating from an iron ball, stands ready to do its job. It is sad to note that even the Victoria and Albert Museum possesses, among its domestic metalware, no true cat; only the elongated caricature of a cat illustrated here. It will, it is true, keep plates warm, but it cannot by any means be trusted to fall the right way up.

From time to time the great 18th-century cabinet-makers and their followers cast an affectionate eye on these humble adjuncts of the kitchen hearth, and evolved from them small tripod stands in mahogany, often with a revolving top. These inherited, in dealers' parlance, the name of cat, though they certainly could not be tossed in the air with impunity. Time and again one can come across one of these pretty little objects in antique shops. Time and again one will be told it is, or was, for warming plates; though it seems that if it were placed near enough to a fire to keep plates warm it would scorch, and that if it were kept far enough away to avoid the wood getting charred it would not keep plates warm. But as a holder for a bowl of flowers it is charming.



WROUGHT-IRON PLATE-WARMER SOMETIMES CALLED A CAT: IN A TRUE CAT THE LEGS RADIATE FROM A SINGLE BALL. Victoria and Albert Museum. (Middle) LATE-18TH-CENTURY TURNED CHERRY-WOOD CAT. (Right) "AS A HOLDER FOR A BOWL OF FLOWERS IT IS CHARMING"

NEW BOOKS

WREN'S PART IN THE EUROPEAN TREND

NONE of the many English authors who have written about Wren has made a serious attempt to see him against the wider background of the European scene in his time. In a study entitled *Wren and His Place in European Architecture* (Faber, 63s.) Dr. Eduard Sekler has now made it possible to do so. On his return to Vienna, after a stay of two years in England as a British Council Scholar, Dr. Sekler was impressed, as he says, "by the difference, with all its implications, between Continental and English Baroque." He set out to examine Wren's philosophy and theory, to compare his architecture with that of his more eminent Continental contemporaries and predecessors, to investigate the sources which influenced him most, and so to isolate the original elements in his work from what was current practice in 17th-century Europe. His hope of thus contributing to a better understanding of Wren has found fulfilment in a book of outstanding scholarship, translated into faultless English by Mr. and Mrs. Peter Murray.

Empirical Methods of Designing

Without overloading a study of less than 200 pages the author has examined with characteristic thoroughness the buildings, the books and the engravings which Wren knew or is likely to have known in evolving his designs. The comparisons which he is able to make by juxtaposing plans, photographs and drawings are of great value in revealing Wren's predilections and indebtedness to others and at the same time his own originality. The façade of Pembroke College Chapel at Cambridge, his earliest work, is set beside a temple design from Serlio, which clearly inspired it, and, to jump to the last years of his career, the western towers of St. Paul's, so much more dramatic in their final form than they were originally intended to be, are compared with those of Sant' Agnese in Piazza Navona at Rome, to show how Italian High Baroque was translated by Wren "into the passionless English of the Royal Society." The gradual evolution of the dome of St. Paul's in Wren's thoughts is traced through drawings and engravings in a fascinating progression, and we are shown what models at different stages were uppermost in the architect's mind. There is no more telling example than this of Wren's empirical method of designing: in his long search for the best solution he ultimately came to the best, as almost all critics, with Dr. Sekler emphatically among them, are agreed.

French Influence

Wren's visit to Paris in 1665 is given special prominence, and Dr. Sekler has been able to add considerably to our knowledge about it. Through books and engravings Wren had a pretty thorough acquaintance with the Italian Renaissance and Baroque masters, and in Paris he met Bernini; nevertheless, French architecture remained, even when he looked (as he did now and then) to Holland, "the most important single factor in Wren's architectural education." Its influence is most apparent in his domestic work, but it is also implicit in the designs for St. Paul's and, though less marked, in some of the City churches. Above all influences, however, there stands out Wren's own personality, the scientific, unemotional attitude, the lucid thought, proceeding step by step, not by intuition, which shows itself in what Dr. Sekler calls his "additive" method of designing: only rarely, as in the designs for the City steeples and in the interior of St. Stephen's, Walbrook, did Wren succeed in fusing all the elements and think in three dimensions.

Dr. Sekler has some fascinating

geometrical diagrams to demonstrate how the mathematician in Wren is discernible in his architecture. He gives a plan and section of St. Paul's and elevations of some of the City churches and shows how simply and systematically they are based on squares and equilateral triangles. The designs for the royal palaces and the two hospitals are analysed and compared, though for Greenwich one might have expected more detailed treatment. There is also a discussion of the part that Hawksmoor may have played in the last phase of Wren's architecture. A final chapter considers what influence Wren had on his successors. Until the 19th century it was remarkably little and mainly transmitted second-hand through Gibbs and his *Book of Architecture*.

30s.). On all subjects connected with the emergence of air power he speaks with unchallengeable authority and the history of his life covers the history of the British Air Force. But his interests have never been confined to the Air Force. Many years ago he was already recognised as one of the world's foremost military strategists. He was, early in his career, appointed to the Plans Branch of the Air Staff and strategy was already his main pursuit. As he says in his introduction to this mixture of history and autobiography: "It has been my good fortune to divide my services almost equally between command and staff appointments, in peace, and through two great wars and one small one. I have been intimately associated with the other two services and during the last fifteen years of my

objective or professionally sound solution of any problem connected with the employment of Air Forces." Fortunately the plan was turned down by the War Cabinet.

Sir John's account of the failure of allied co-operation is none the less candid and he tells us that the Russians "never behaved even matey, like Allies.... Apart from odd flashes of amiability... they preserved throughout an attitude of sullen suspicion and boorish antipathy."

E. B.

MISS DAWN PALETHORPE'S STORY

MISS DAWN PALETHORPE, one of our two leading women riders, has written a delightful account of her life with horses in *My Horses and I* (COUNTRY LIFE, 8s. 6d.). No one who has seen her appearances in the show-ring with Earlsrath Rambler and Hollywell Surprise—and especially that at Harringay last year—can doubt the authority with which she writes, and her simple, direct style should inspire young riders everywhere to follow her example. "I never 'took up' riding," she writes. "In fact I don't even remember starting to ride. I simply did it because I was expected to"—and she goes on to say that it all began before she was three. From then on, inspired and trained by a devoted father and mother, she lived with horses and dreamed of horses, and now, at the age of twenty, she is the reserve in the British Olympic team and can look forward to even greater triumphs than she has already achieved. The book has scores of excellent illustrations.

LIVES OF THE SOCIAL INSECTS

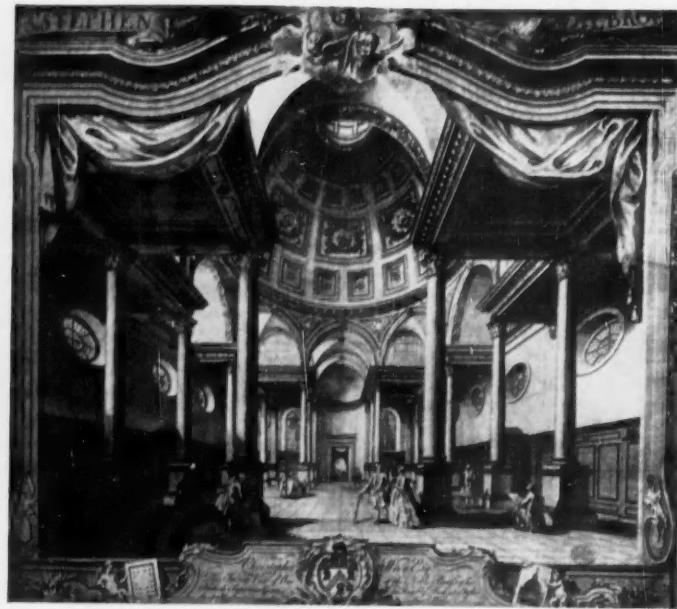
HAROLD BASTIN'S *Insect Communities* (Hutchinson, 15s.) is a short account of the social insects. Starting from such gregarious insects as locusts, he deals with wasps and bees, concluding with the most highly developed of all social insects, the ants and termites. An insect community is not so much a collection of individuals as an organism like a tree or animal, in which each insect is equivalent to a single cell. The more complex the community, the more specialised the members of it become: among the termites the usual divisions into queen, male and sterile worker have further subdivisions such as the large-headed soldiers, which are incapable of feeding themselves but guard the nest from predators.

Communities arose, says Mr. Bastin, "through a progressive development of maternal care conjoined with a tendency to gregariousness on the part of the rising generation." This maternal care shows itself in the more primitive insects in not leaving the larva to its own devices, but collecting food for it. The bees' or ants' nest, with the egg-laying queen surrounded by her offspring workers, is the culmination of this development.

Social life requires a certain amount of communication. Bees, for example, inform one another where honey is to be found by dances; ants can get help from other members of the nest by some means unknown to us. Mr. Bastin deals with all such aspects of social life, with parasites, food and breeding, in this well-written and interesting book.

MAP FOR THE ANGLER

THE new edition of the British Field Sports Society's *Map of the Trout and Salmon Waters of England and Wales* (5s.) clearly marks the main centres of the sport, and includes a booklet in which over 250 of these are listed, with the addresses of the controlling authorities and recommended hotels.



INTERIOR OF THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN, WALBROOK, IN THE CITY OF LONDON, ENGRAVED BY SAM WALE. An illustration in *Wren and his Place in European Architecture* by Eduard F. Sekler, reviewed on this page

Some of Dr. Sekler's findings may be given in conclusion. "Wren's right to a place in the ranks of European architects of more than national importance can only be based on his church architecture." Here he created "something new and unique." While paying tribute to Wren's character, versatility and outstanding intellect, he is less impressed by his quality as an artist. Here he recognises "a more than average talent," but not sufficient to make him a great generator of ideas in the architecture of Europe.

A. S. O.

SIR JOHN SLESSOR'S MEMOIRS

JOHN SLESSOR joined the Royal Flying Corps in 1915 at the age of 18. Thirty-five years later he became Chief of the Air Staff. His service life began in a string-and-sealing-wax biplane, looking for Zeppelins. By 1925 he was in command of No. 4 Squadron at Farnborough; from 1930 to 1934 he was on the Directing Staff of the Army Staff College at Camberley; in 1941 he was in charge of No. 5 Bomber Group; two years later, after being A.C.A.S. to Sir Charles Portal, he became Commander-in-Chief Coastal Command during the Battle of the Atlantic. At the end of the war he returned to Kingsway from the Mediterranean as Air Member for Personnel.

These facts are recorded here only to show the range of Sir John Slessor's purview revealed in *The Central Blue: Recollections and Reflections* (Cassell,

active employment played some part in great events and knew and worked with many important people and a few great men. Above all, I have been on the inside of one of the great revolutionary movements of history, the emergence of air-power as the predominant military factor in world affairs."

The Junior Service

From 1937 to 1941, as Director of Plans, it was his duty to tender advice to the Chief of the Air Staff, an office which he eventually filled himself. His views on strategy were always firmly expressed and in this historical retrospect lose nothing where they sometimes touch on politics. "The heads of the older Services, not unnaturally," he tells us, "found it a bit difficult at first to adjust themselves to the idea that the Chief of this new Young Service was now on a basis of equality with them." His picture of the struggle towards adjustment is nothing if not graphic. "The 'bloody Air Marshals'" (a generic term applied by Lord Beaverbrook to the senior officers of His Majesty's Air Force) were supposed not to know what was good for them," and when 1940 came a proposal was made that Coastal Command should be handed over to the Navy. "It originated," says Sir John Slessor, "in an egregious alliance between Lord Beaverbrook, Sir Roger Keyes, and the new First Lord, Mr. A. V. Alexander. These gentlemen were not qualified by temperament or by experience to evolve an important,

DESIGNS OF SILVER FISH-SLICES

By G. BERNARD HUGHES

In her diary of the 1760s the Duchess of Northumberland shed many interesting sidelights upon the home-life of George III and his newly married queen. In April, 1762, she recorded that "Their Majesty's constant [dinner] Table at this Time was as follows: a soup removed with a large joyst of Meat and two other Dishes such as a Pye or broyl'd fowl and the like. On the side table was a large joyst, for example, a large Sirloin of Beef cold and also a Boar's Head and a Sallad; 2nd Course always one Roast, one of Pastry and Spinage and Sweetbreads, Macaron, Scallopt Oysters, Whitebait or the like."

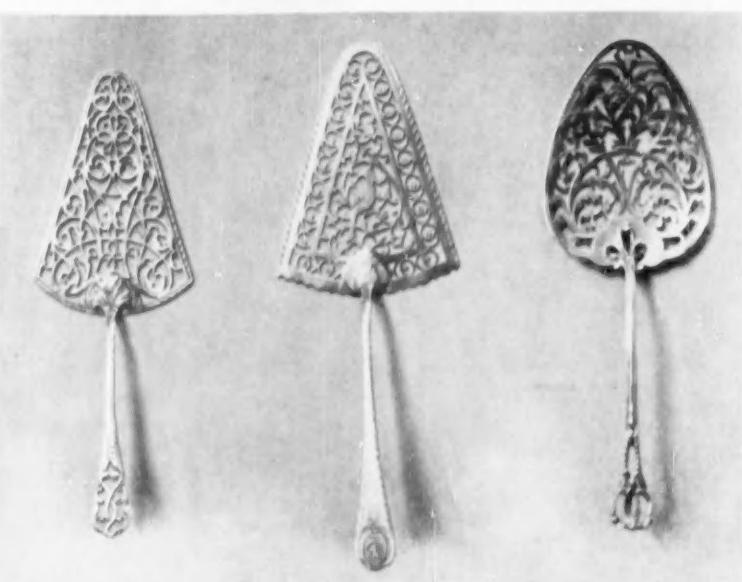
The fashion for whitebait spread, and the special table accessory which silversmiths had designed by 1760 was used for serving this dainty. The London Assay Office listed this as a fish-trowel, the cost of assay being three-halfpence, but present-day collectors prefer the term fish-slice. Service at the table was just coming into fashion, the host assuming the duty of carver, which had hitherto been performed by a servant at the sideboard. This necessitated the introduction of such accessories to the table as knife-rests, marrow-spoons and the fish-trowel.

Rarely is an example seen of the original exquisitely hand-worked fish-trowel. This resembled a builder's mortar trowel with a triangular blade, its length about one-third greater than its breadth. The silversmith cut six from a circular plate of silver. By working six potential blades at a time on a single plate the silversmith was able to ensure greater stability while saw-cutting and filing. Each triangle was pierced with an elaborate and delicate all-over openwork design of foliated scrolls and other motifs, enclosed within a narrow border. The disc was then cut into six sections and the points rounded off. The flat surface of the remaining silver was then enriched with chased lines or engraving.

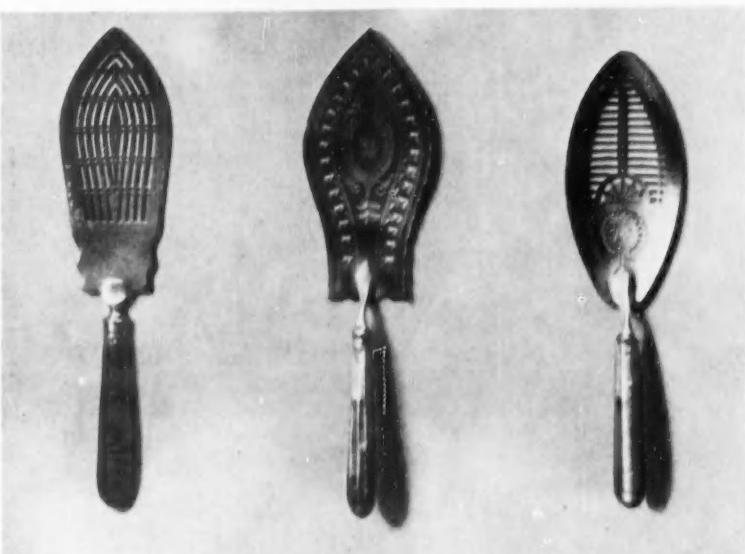
The openwork decoration was achieved by saw-cutting and removing the background, leaving the pattern in solid, flat-surfaced silver. Fish-trowel blades were so delicately pierced and so ambitiously worked that to the casual observer they might appear to lack strength. The metal, however, was compensatingly strong to withstand strain in use and during cleaning, and the scrolls reinforced each other at cleverly designed points of contact. The curved edge of the blade to which the handle was to be fixed was given a wavy outline, its curve being an arc of the original circular plate. At this time the edges were squared off.

The slender handle was of solid silver worked in a single piece from the plate or cast with an openwork finial. In outline it resembled contemporary spoon handles with an expansive shell- or fan-shaped bracket joining it to the blade, the rim of which was feather-edged to match.

During the 1770s the hand-pierced fish-trowel gave way to the fish-slice on which the edges were bevelled. Such a scoop more easily served small fish, or prepared portions of a large fish, as the piercing still allowed liquor to be strained off, but for dividing a large fish at table two matching slices would have been required. These triangular blades were less expansive than those of fish-trowels: piercing also was less costly, as hand-cut designs were simpler with less silver cut away. Designs might contain rows of conventional Neo-classical motifs. Many of these were produced by press-piercing, often finished by file to give the appearance of handwork. Both sides of the blade were similarly engraved and the hall-mark was usually struck on the underside.



FISH-TROWELS HAND-PIERCED WITH OPENWORK DESIGNS OF FOLIATED SCROLL-WORK AND WITH HANDLES WORKED FROM THE PLATE. (Left to right) MAKER'S MARK T.N., LONDON, 1769; BY C. ALDRITCH AND H. GREEN, LONDON, 1772; MAKER'S MARK T.N., LONDON, 1770



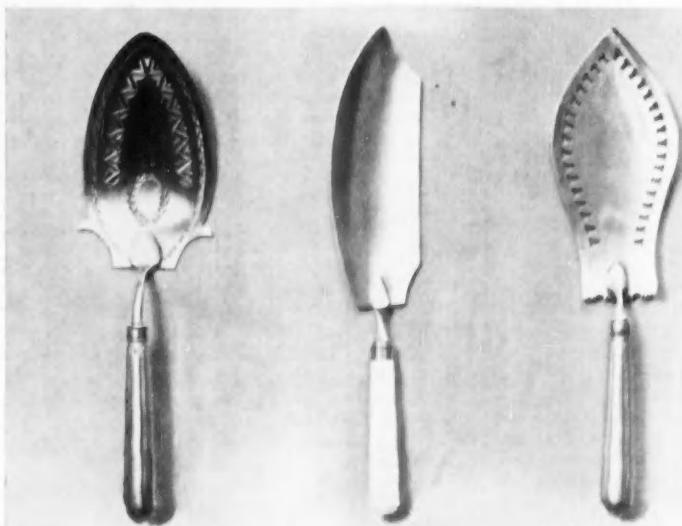
FISH-SLICES WITH SYMMETRICAL BEVEL-EDGED FISH-SHAPED BLADES AND SILVER HANDLES. (Left to right) BLADE BY BURRAGE DAVENPORT AND HANDLE BY MARK BOCH, LONDON, 1784; BY PETER AND ANN BATEMAN, 1794; BY HENRY CHAWNER, LONDON, 1795

Press-piercing on fish-slices was composed of simple decorations such as vertical and horizontal pales. Some highly effective piercing was achieved by repeating such simple motifs as bands of lunettes, shells, semi-circles and so on, with a narrow engraved band encircling the bevelled edges. The pierced outline was usually brought into relief by the addition of engraved dots and simple classic ornament bordering the curves. More elaborate was an adaptation of the honeysuckle motif, a series of running scrolls terminating at each end of the pattern with an individual scrolled foliated motif.

The fish-slice with a fish-shaped blade became fashionable by 1780 and for the remainder of the century this was the most frequent shape, pierced with conventional motifs, often a central full-length pattern resembling the backbone and ribs of a fish. A blade of this shape might be engraved with a motif of crossed fish incorporated in foliated scrollwork, the surrounding ground being cut away to form an openwork design. In some instances the fish-shaped blade was wide, in the form of a headless plaice, with the point of the blade considerably to the right of the handle.

The factory-made fish-slice of the 18th century was more or less standardised to a fish-shaped blade with a border of pales following its outline and an oval central rosette: the pales themselves were bordered by ornamental engraving or other pierced motifs. The pierced design was enriched with engraving.

Diamond-shaped blades date from 1780. Three rows of



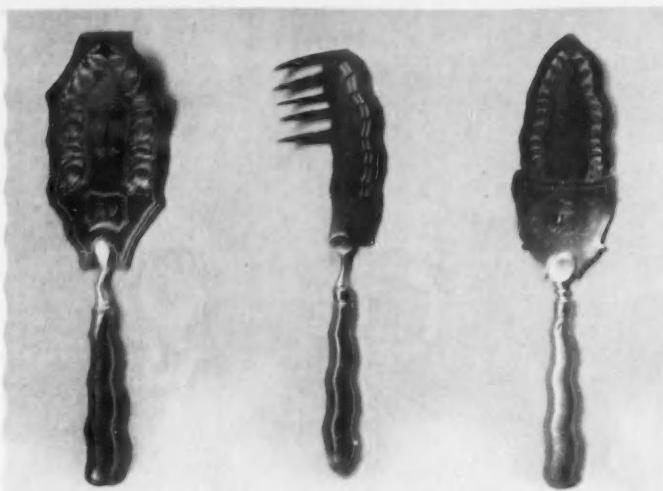
A PIERCED SYMMETRICAL BLADE WITH A BRIGHT-CUT ENGRAVING BY JAMES BAXTER; HANDLE BY MARK BOCH, LONDON, 1797. (Middle) PLAIN ASYMMETRICAL BLADE WITH CARVED IVORY HANDLE. BY HANNAH NORTHCOTE, LONDON, 1797. (Right) FISH-SHAPED BLADE WITH PRESS-PIERCED BORDER. BY PETER AND ANN BATEMAN; HANDLE BY MARK BOCH, 1794

pressed pales alternated with circles around edges and points of the diamond outline, the centre being ornamented with a single classic motif in the bright-cut engraving that also ornamented the solid areas between the piercing.

Rectangular blades were made with rounded edges from the 1790s to the 1820s. They were mostly decorated with pressed piercing in a coarse style. Decoration was confined to simple geometric motifs following the blade outline and enclosed in a frame of engraved lines, and a similar feature encircled the edge of the blade itself. These are usually found associated with stamped hafts, even though the blades bear the marks of master silversmiths who bought factory-made parts and finished and assembled them in various fish-slice designs.

Fish-slice blades were always symmetrical until about 1800, when the term later perpetuated in fish knives was acquired; this shape has been used for knife-blades from Anglo-Saxon times. There was now only one cutting edge to the blade, a smoothly curved outline bordered with a single or double incised line. The blunt edge was undulating and incurved, meeting the cutting edge with a blunt point. The centre of the blade was pierced with a simple motif and the field might be engraved with flower and foliage motifs. This asymmetrical blade, pierced only with heavy openwork, could be made with silver of thinner gauge at a time when the precious metal was costly. The shape continued to be made throughout the 19th century, however, usually from stout metal, with but slight variations of outline.

The solid bolster joining the blade to a silver, ivory, or wood handle was a simple casting, usually with a short up-curving shank ending in a tang for insertion in the handle. A silver ferrule fitted over this handle end to keep it from splitting while in use. Ivory handles were frequent; at first they were plain surfaced, stained green and polished, but they might be turned or turned and carved. Later the ivory was preferred in its natural colour with a smooth surface, and the haft might be round, rectangular, or octagonal in section, tapering towards the blade.



RECTANGULAR BLADE WITH RECESSED CORNERS, PRESS-PIERCED AND BRIGHT-CUT ENGRAVED. BLADE BY HENRY CHAWNER AND HANDLE BY R.T., LONDON, 1791. (Middle) ASYMMETRICAL BLADE WITH FIVE PRONGS TO ACT AS A FORK. BLADE BY WILLIAM ELEY AND WILLIAM FEARN AND HANDLE BY JOHN THOMPSON, LONDON, 1800. (Right) SYMMETRICAL BLADE PIERCED AND ENGRAVED. BLADE BY PETER AND ANN BATEMAN AND HANDLE BY MARK BOCH, LONDON, 1800

Hafts in silver occasionally resembled the handles of contemporary spoons. The vast majority, however, were factory-made knife-hafts stamped from thinly rolled sterling silver plate. The halves of the haft were struck from dies and invisibly soldered together; even with a magnifying glass the joint is difficult to detect. The central cavity was filled with a mixture of shellac strengthened with powdered pumice, poured in while semi-liquid. The tang of the bolster was then inserted and when this cement had hardened the handle was securely fixed. The cost of producing such hafts was about one-thirtieth that of hand-made specimens. The weight of silver varied from fifteen to twenty pennyweights a dozen.

A statute of 1791 so amended the law of assaying silver that among very small pieces weighing less than five pennyweights hall-marking was compulsory on only a few specified articles. Knife and fork hafts were not specified and were, therefore, optionally exempt from

hall-marking. Silver handles made towards the end of the 18th century and lacking a hall-mark are often marked *STERLING*, the only other device being the maker's mark. No duty was paid on such silver. These handles were usually made in Sheffield, and from about 1820 this type was used on fish-slices and forks to the virtual exclusion of all other silver handles.

The development of asymmetrical blades was not at once marked by the introduction of fish-forks. The collector will notice the existence of such slices designed for the server's left hand. But the most elaborate development was the fish-server intended to hit the portion of fish between two slices attached one above the other to be held in the one hand. These dated from the opening of the 19th century and were eventually superseded by pairs of fish-carvers consisting of a fish slice and a matching wide-pronged fork. The fish-server was constructed from a fish-slice with a long bolster-shank and a second smaller blade, of similar shape and piercing, fixed above it and fitted with a solid silver handle wrought from flat plate. This upper handle extended slightly beyond the lower

bolster-shank, and was linked to it by a fixed lever hinging from front to rear in a slot cut in the bolster-shank, or less frequently, by spring attachment. When the upper handle was pushed forward with thumb-pressure upon its scrolled terminal, the upper blade was lowered on to the larger blade to secure the fish while lifting it from dish to plate.

When at last the fish-slice was given a matching fork they were catalogued in the 1820s as fish-carvers and were often associated with sets of fish-knives, which were now introduced to table service. The handles of fish-carvers matched, usually in silver, or, between the 1840s and 1870s, in mother-of-pearl. The fork had four broad, flat prongs and the curved base might be pierced with a motif matching the piercing on the slice blade. From the late 1880s the slice blade might again be symmetrical, but more usually remained asymmetrical with an ivory or silver handle.

Illustrations: Victoria and Albert Museum.

UNDER PRESSURE ➤ A Golf Commentary by BERNARD DARWIN

CERTAIN phrases seem suddenly to grow fashionable in regard to various kinds of sport, or it may be only that I become more conscious of them. One that I have lately been hearing is "under pressure." I hear it when I occasionally look at racing, of which I am profoundly ignorant, on television. The commentator will exclaim that such and such a horse is under pressure, generally at the moment before he gets incoherent with excitement. I am not precisely aware what he means, but I imagine that the horse is having a hard time of it.

Again I heard it often from Wimbledon. And incidentally I may confess that now and again after a spell of watching on the links of Hoylake I turned into the clubhouse for a little while to look at Head, Rosewall and company, and listen to the admirable Mr. Maskell, who pointed out to me all sorts of interesting things that I never could have observed or thought of for myself. Nor, I may add, was I by any means alone in this taste, for the room was crowded with golfers listening to lawn tennis. When Mr. Longhurst began his delightful dissertations from the top of his tower it was hard work to get a seat near the screen and viewers saw the picture of Van Denck slicing out of bounds at the first hole when they could have seen the real thing by looking out of the window.

However, I am wandering from my point. At Wimbledon so-and-so was serving with concentrated and successful ferocity or taking the

most incredible back-hand cross-court volleys or doing something else equally magical, but the question was, so said the warning voice, whether he would be able to keep it up under pressure, and it now and then turned out that he could not, sometimes from eminently pardonable human frailty and sometimes from an unsoundness of method which a crisis could expose.

It is in this last sense that I lately heard the phrase much used in golfing circles. A learned and observant friend said to me the other day that he thought the Americans had discovered the difference between the methods apt to collapse under pressure and those that could survive it. I then remembered that the first time I had ever heard the phrase was from that very fine and thoughtful American golfer, Willie Turnesa, who won both our Amateur Championship and that of his own country. He used it apropos of putting, saying that a free wrist in putting was always likely to break down under pressure.

That doctrine is now widely accepted. It could scarcely be written to-day, as it was once, that "the best putters use their wrists greatly." To-day they putt with a very firm wrist, hardly to be distinguished from a stiff one. There is very little if any freedom of the wrist in anything of the nature of a holing-out putt. At Hoylake there is immediately in front of the clubhouse a practice green, where players were all day long to be seen at work with their putters. I watched them with interest and saw hardly

one that could be said to make much use of his wrists. Presently, perhaps, some genius may arise who holes his putts "all over the green" with a flamboyantly free wrist and all the world fall to imitating him. I doubt it, however; I think that the "unbroken" wrist has come to stay and further that it largely accounts for the general raising of the putting standard to be seen on these occasions.

Another example given by my learned friend, before mentioned, is that of the high pitching shot played with a very free wrist. It is very pretty to see as played by a master and can be most effective: the club appears to pick up the ball and fly away with it. Arnaud Massy often played his pitches in this exuberant manner, and played them beautifully; but first, he was something of a golfing genius and second, I remember to have seen him miss them. The coming of the wedge and the stroke which all the professionals have developed with it has rendered any such elegant antics unnecessary. The "high lofting shot" played with a loose grip as described and depicted in the beloved Badminton was played with a no more than normally lofted iron. Such niceties are no more. It is no easy matter, I am very sure, to master the wedge, but once it is mastered it has made some things almost simple that were once appallingly difficult.

In a match at golf the pressure comes, of course, chiefly from the opponent. The horrid

creature, far from cracking, insists on hanging on to us. I had hoped, so that too often it is we crack instead. In score play, however, such as at Hoylake, the pressure is applied not by his partner, who is an ally or at best a neutral, but by the player himself. Everyone of us, however humble, has at some time or other grown frightened of his own score, as it is called, and it is a terror likely to attack the bravest in an Open Championship. One who clearly suffered from it, if only from a mild attack, was Smalldon in the first round. I heard he was doing wonderful things and went to meet him accordingly at the Dun green, when he wanted three fours for the really fantastic score of 65. He was not quite on the green, but within a very short chip of it. He played the chip well enough, but the green was slow and he was a little short—five or at most six feet. It was a nasty length at such a moment—for that matter it always is—and then came an inopportune squeak from some

piece of machinery on the television tower and the putt was missed, not badly but yet not holed. And then came a tee shot, not bad but not quite good enough and into a bunker it went; it would at such a crisis. Finally, at the last hole came another chip not quite up, another "nasty" putt just not holed, and another five. Nothing had gone very wrong, but the pressure on natural, human anxiety had turned fours into fives.

The course itself naturally has the player under pressure, and no course more so, none, indeed, perhaps so much as, Hoylake. This is not only from its magnificent qualities but in particular from the frequent danger of going out-of-bounds. It was alarming enough in the old days when the Hoylake penalty for out-of-bounds was distance only. Now that the universal rule of golf prescribes stroke and distance, the peril is almost desperate. Think of Souchak starting his qualifying rounds with a seven at the first

and another seven at the sixth, the dreaded *Briars*. Van Donck started his last crucial round by putting his second out of bounds and had to hole a very good putt to avoid a seven. To my mind, and I found a good many other people to agree with me, the penalty is for Hoylake too severe. I do not want to alter the rule; I think for most courses it is the best rule, but to my mind Hoylake was a better course under the old one. Certain holes have, I am sure, lost something. Nobody is likely to go boldly for the Dowie green (the seventh) when it is so painfully easy to slip over that low cap out of bounds. It used to be a very great short hole where it was worth taking a brave risk with the tee shot; I cannot believe that it is worth while to take that risk now. I do not know that there is any cure, but I love and admire Hoylake so much that I cannot for the life of me refrain from this gentle lament. A generally good rule can sometimes defeat its own ends, and this is the particular place where I venture to think it does so.

CORRESPONDENCE

THE IRON DUKE'S MOTHER

SIR.—The accompanying photograph has been carefully kept for the best part of a century, while the picture itself obviously goes back a century further. My object in sending it to you is to record the picture as one of historical interest: for the little girl, Anne, eldest daughter of the first Viscount and Viscountess Dungannon, became the mother of the first Duke of Wellington and, moreover, lived to the age of 90 to witness his career. As this family group is not, I believe, in any of the public galleries, it would perhaps be useful to students and archivists if one of your correspondents could indicate its present ownership.—WAYFARER, Lancing, Sussex.

PHEASANT CHICKS REARED BY HEN

SIR.—When I was reading through your correspondence pages, some of the letters on birds recalled to my mind an incident which occurred while I was on a farm in Gloucestershire.

Feeding some poultry in a stack-yard one day, I noticed a hen hurry away into a near-by covert, whereupon I followed, only to find that she had apparently disappeared. However, while I was searching around, some ivy roots at the foot of a tree tripped me up and as I fell a pheasant flew up into my face. On pulling aside the ivy I found the missing hen sitting tight on a nest containing twelve pheasant eggs and three of her own.

The outcome was that the pheasant unfortunately deserted the nest, but seven of her eggs were successfully hatched. The chicks survived the perils of the farm-yard for about twelve days, but eventually succumbed while I was on holiday.—PATRICIA A. YOUNG (Miss), West Park, Lingfield, Surrey.

PUZZLES OF THE MAY TREE

SIR.—I read with interest the article on the puzzles of the may tree by Mr. Miles Hadfield (June 28). I would like to suggest another possible solution of the children's maying song.

The word "nut," spelt also in dialects "knot, knob, nat," means a flower, blossom, bird or sprig. The words were: "Here we go gathering nuts of may." Dr. E. C. Brewer (1810-1897) in his *Dictionary of Proverbs and Fable* supports this view. On old May Day, the 13th, the children were usually successful in getting may blossom, but when the day was altered to the 1st perhaps failed, and in the decline of dialect some said "nuts and may." There have been unfortunately many cold and frosty mornings in May in everybody's recollection.

The aversion to cutting a hawthorn tree, called in this county an aggy or agg-gag tree, is still felt, as is also the superstition against bringing



PORTRAIT GROUP OF THE FIRST VISCOUNT AND VISCOUNTESS DUNGANNON AND CHILDREN.
The girl, Anne, became the mother of the first Duke of Wellington.

See letter: The Iron Duke's Mother

hawthorn bloom into the house.—J. F. R. HOPE (Brig.-Gen.), Preston Grange, Basingstoke, Hampshire.

PERSISTENT MAGPIES

From Lady Allen

SIR.—I was interested to read the letter entitled *The Persistent Magpie* (July 5). Some years ago when I lived in Surrey a magpie suddenly appeared in my garden and became an intolerable nuisance. It delighted in tearing out young plants, which would fly in at open windows and peck about on dressing-tables. At last I could stand it no longer. It was caught, put in a basket, carried to a wood about ten minutes' walk away and there liberated. I never saw it again.—FLORENCE ALLEN, Haddenham, Buckinghamshire.

TRAPPING THE SQUIRREL

SIR.—Since reading in *COUNTRY LIFE* the article about the decline of the grey squirrel I have slightly relaxed my efforts this year to prevent them from eating my strawberries. I went away for two nights on June 25, leaving my small strawberry bed covered with a portable wire cage, and I did not bother to dig in the wire netting as carefully as usual. I went into the garden directly I returned and caught sight of a squirrel slinking out of the cage. The strawberries, alas! ripe and unripe—had all disappeared. I bought a few the next day and left them in my car while I listened to the six o'clock news. When I went out to fetch them I was horrified to see that a

squirrel had entered the car and was helping himself to the strawberries. I snatched out the basket and shut the window very quickly, leaving the squirrel a prisoner inside. Then I telephoned to my nearest neighbour—a farmer—and a young man soon arrived and he managed, though armed only with a stick, to demolish the squirrel.

S. WILBERFORCE (Miss), Graffham, Petersworth, Sussex.

WORTHAM MANOR

SIR.—In my letter of June 28 I did not intend to question the fact that there was anciently a manor of Wortham, in Devon, but to ask how long the house itself has been known as Wortham Manor instead of simply Wortham, as in my copy of the Ordnance Map. Brightley, with which I compared Wortham, itself a manorial residence from at least the 13th century until 1737, has for the past 150 years been Brightley Barton, but seems formerly to have been simply Brightley. To cite other examples in the neighbourhood, Youldon, Hall, Nailbury, all of them ancient manor houses, still appear without addition. In the same way the farms appear formerly to have been known simply by their names, for example Gambaston has been so called probably since Saxon times, but is now styled Gambaston Farm—a tautology in this instance, for I am told that -ton means farm. Where convenience demands that a house should be differentiated from its village or parish name it seems

to have been done by the addition of House or Court or Barton, but not (in this neighbourhood) until recent times by Manor or Farm.—J. H. B. ANDREWS (Rev'd.), Chittlehampton Vicarage, North Devon.

INTELLIGENCE IN PIGS

SIR.—We have a Large White sow named Carnival. Her mother and the rest of the litter met with an accident, and Carnival was left an orphan at three weeks old and bottle-fed by me. I have a habit of talking to the animals I work with, and Carnival used to look intelligent when I admonished her on this or that subject, and quite definitely knew her name. She grew into a handsome gilt, and when she reached the appropriate age she was put to run with the other sows and in due course had a litter. A little time after this it happened that events kept me away from our farm for some months, but when I next went into the field Carnival, now large, muddy and distinctly lean, came galloping towards me making pig noises of welcome as surely as any dog will bark to welcome his master.

A few days later we introduced another gilt into the field with the breeding sows. Carnival took a dislike to her and attacked her most savagely. I had no stick with me, but I went up to them and slapped her smartly on the neck with my open hand, exclaiming "Carnival! Stop it, you naughty girl!" Believe it or not, she did stop it at once, and came



PHEASANTS FEEDING AT A BIRD-TABLE NEAR WORKSOP, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

See letter: Pheasants at the Bird-table

and stood by me with her head down in a comical attitude of abject shame, and when I relented and spoke to her nicely she lay on the ground in much the same way as a bitch does when asking forgiveness.

The other day while cleaning one of our outdoor farrowing-houses in the field where our sows run I noticed Carnival trying to have a fight with another sow with a litter in the orchard, on the other side of a small gate. The gate is somewhat frail, and it really looked as though it would break at any moment. Again I called sharply: "Carnival, you're not to do that! Come here!" And Carnival immediately left the gate and came to join me in the farrowing-house.

Of these two incidents I consider the second one the more remarkable, as in the first instance I did strike a blow, though a light one, but in the second there was nothing but my voice alone, and that at a distance of about twenty yards. CHRISTIAN D. McCANNIS, *Potters Farm, Laverton, Broadway, Worcestershire*.

PHEASANTS AT THE BIRD-TABLE

SIR, With reference to the recent correspondence as to whether other readers have had pheasants at the bird-table, I enclose a photograph that I took early this year.

The table is 15 ft. from my

morning-room window and the photograph was taken through the window. Pheasants have been coming to this table for ten years, and food is put on it from October till hatching time.

During the arctic winter of 1947 we had up to forty birds coming regularly. We cleared the snow from cabbages in the kitchen garden and no doubt saved the lives of many. The number coming for food has declined since 1947, owing mostly, I consider, to modern silage cutting methods. Several have appeared in a maimed condition.

Though I belong to the older school of shooting men a shotgun has not been used near the house. In consequence many lost their fear and would remain on the lawn while my wife replenished their repast.

Their appearance has been a constant pleasure to us and our friends during the winter months, and the settling of the annual question of the ruling cock is of great interest.

As I write this letter a hen with seven chicks has appeared on the lawn, though no food is on the bird-table. These are all wild birds.—S. H. LE TALL, *Carburton Green, Worksop, Nottinghamshire*.

UNUSUAL ROYAL ARMS

SIR, Royal Arms in churches usually mean those achievements which were set up inside, as ordered before the

Commonwealth and after the Restoration, when some disloyalty was in the air. Two little-publicised examples outside this category may be of interest to your readers. My first photograph shows the pedestal of a font at Westbury-on-Severn, Gloucestershire. This pedestal's other decorations include a crowned Tudor rose, fleur-de-lis, portcullis and the date 1583. The pedestal was found in a garden many years ago, but the actual font or bowl above was found separately, rather later, and the reconstruction is to some extent conjectural, founded on measurements.

The other Royal Arms are at Sherborne Abbey, Dorset, on a south wall of evidently later date than the famous fan-vaulted main part. But (this is perhaps the most remarkable point) the arms are not inside but on an exterior wall, where they seem to have resisted the weather extremely well. Perhaps pre-Jacobean Royal Arms with the Tudor dragon are rather more common than one supposes. BYWAYMAN, *Somerset*.

DEAF CATS WITH BLUE EYES

SIR, In connection with the letter on deafness of blue-eyed cats (June 21), this very fact was noted and commented on by Darwin himself about a century ago. It may be regarded as one of the earliest anticipations of the modern concept that hereditary factors lie in chromosomes and therefore some utterly unrelated factors go hand in hand.—R. BRAHMACHARY (MRS.), *Hamburg, Germany*.

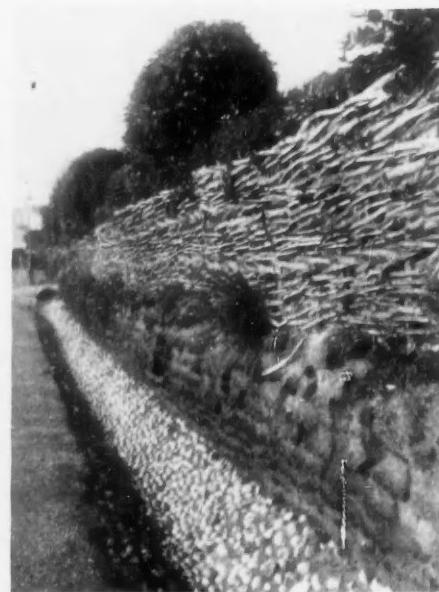
THE NOISE MADE BY BATS

SIR, The sound emitted by a bat is often said to be inaudible to the human ear. I am quite able to hear the sound myself, and I know of other people who can do so. The sound is certainly not a "chick", as stated by John Warham in his interesting article (June 28), but a rather musical and unearthly squeak, appearing to come from no particular direction and emitted at the rate of several per second.

I should much like to know if other readers can hear the sound.—G. ODGERS, *Turret House, Stockwell-road, Tettenhall, Wolverhampton*.

AN ECONOMICAL GARDEN WALL

SIR, In the early days of Bournemouth's development much terracing and walling on the steep cliffs and chines was done with peat, and it is interesting to notice how extremely well this material has stood up to both time and weather. This type of terracing is still used occasionally and



A SECTION OF OLD PEAT WALLING ON THE CLIFF TOP AT BOURNEMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE

See letter: An Economical Garden Wall

proves a useful substitute for the now prohibitively expensive stone. It is light to handle and easy to construct.

The wall shown in my photograph is of a considerable age and is on the cliff top in a most exposed position, but it is clearly still in excellent condition. This is partly due, no doubt, to the fact that a good drainage channel runs along below it.—N. M. WOODALL, *1, The Crossroads, Southbourne, Bournemouth*.

SEX EQUALITY IN HERALDRY

From Viscount Chetwynd
SIR, In your issue of June 28 you publish a letter from Mr. Hugh Lecky on the subject of sex equality in heraldry. I do not wish to join in the argument caused by the Editor's preface to this year's *Debrett*, but I would like to take this opportunity of correcting Mr. Lecky on one point. During the last war auxiliaries of the A.T.S. serving in mixed heavy anti-aircraft batteries were without any question part of the unit as a fighting unit and were on numerous occasions in action against the enemy; in fact had they not been in action the batteries could not have carried out their function, namely to engage the enemy.

Finally, on at least one occasion, an auxiliary lost her life while in action against enemy aircraft.—CHETWYND, *Eastbury House, Newbury, Berkshire*.

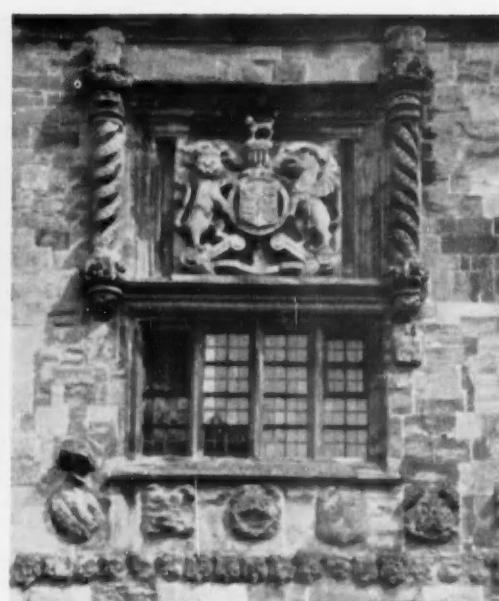
LARGE GATHERING OF KESTRELS

SIR, Early in June I was in a boat fishing for trout on Lough Cailow, in Co. Mayo. As we drifted towards one shore fringed with tall Scotch pines a large number of kestrels flew out, hovering and dipping over the boat and evidently warning us off their breeding-ground. At one time I counted twenty-one in the air at the same time. I do not know if there is a



THE ROYAL ARMS ON A FONT OF 1583 AT WESTBURY-ON-SEVERN, GLOUCESTERSHIRE, AND (right) ON SHERBORNE ABBEY, DORSET

See letter: Unusual Royal Arms



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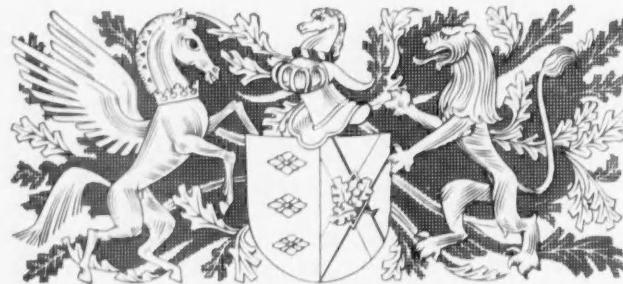
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collective noun to express such a conglomeration. If there is not, may I suggest a "hover" of hawks?

DESMOND MACMANUS, Brook, St James's-street, S.W.1.

Such a large gathering of kestrels is most unusual, and was probably due to a sudden abundance of food which had attracted birds from far and wide. According to Kennedy, Rutledge and Scroope's *The Birds of Ireland*, at least 17 kestrels were once seen hovering over a ridge in the Wicklow mountains, apparently feeding on caterpillars of the antler moth; and those seen by our correspondent were probably feeding on insects rather than warning him off their breeding-ground. A collection of trained hawks is called a cast, but we know of no noun of assembly for wild hawks. "Hover"

come over to look for them; and too often the few that are available fail to find a buyer at other than a nominal price, with consequent discouragement to the breeders. A neighbour of mine, for instance, tired of waiting for a buyer, recently sold an unbroken four-year-old, which he had bred himself, for £12. It changed hands a few weeks later for £35 and was shipped to England, where, no doubt, the price was very different.

It often happens that the few buyers who do come over fail to find the horses they want, although there may, in fact, be suitable horses within a mile or so of the places they visit. Farmers frequently cannot afford to send their horses to sales in Dublin, and buyers often do not like buying at the sales for various reasons.

asking for any contribution from buyer or seller.

M. P. O'C. TANDY
(Major), Coolatore, Moate,
Westmeath.

THE QUEEN'S OAK

SIR.—Many fine old oak trees have been illustrated in your pages in the past and it is difficult to realise that many of them were sturdy trees before the craft of printing was introduced to England. None carries the aura of time more successfully than the almost legendary Queen's Oak of Grafton Regis, in Northamptonshire. It is still flourishing and in full leaf as I write.

It is nearly 500 years since, it is said, the historic meeting of Elizabeth Woodville and Edward IV took place beneath its branches, and the great forest of Whittlebury has shrunk to a mere wood. Now the tree modestly hides its 26-feet girth trunk behind elderberry and dog-rose in a hedgerow.

—E. F. INSTONE, 36, Keffel-avenue, Haversham, Buckinghamshire.

WHAT WAS IT FOR?

SIR.—I am enclosing a photograph of an old brass instrument, which has been in the possession of my family for many years, and I should be grateful and interested if any of your readers could tell me what it is and for what purpose it was used.—E. WAKELIN (Mrs.), Little Orchards, Witham, Essex.

A LINK WITH AMERICA

SIR.—The chapel at Chipchase Castle, Northumberland, illustrated in your issue of June 14, reminded me of the ruined private chapel of Coton Hall, near Bridgnorth, Shropshire, of which I enclose photographs. A difference is the ogee head of the central light of the east window, which is surmounted within by an interesting fragment of Rococo plasterwork.

Coton was the ancestral home of the Shropshire Lees, from whom came the Virginian family made famous by two signatories of the American Declaration of Independence and General Robert E. Lee, its founder being Richard Lee, who emigrated during the reign of Charles I. The present appearance of the Hall is attributed to Harry Lancelot Lee, who in 1820 reduced its three storeys to



BRASS INSTRUMENT OF UNCERTAIN PURPOSE

See letter: What was it for?

two. Within the house, now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Thompson, are several portraits of Lees by Joseph Highmore, including one of Thomas Lee, the builder of Stratford, the 18th-century house on the Potomac which is one of America's colonial show houses.—MARGARET JONES (Mrs.), 32, Forest-road, Moseley, Birmingham, 13.

POWER OF REASONING IN BIRDS

SIR.—Evening after evening, while we are having supper, a hedge sparrow arrives outside the window and pecks up seeds of Iceland poppy, which are scattered on the path. He then, over and over again, jumps on to the stems of the poppies, which, bending under his weight, scatter yet more seeds for his benefit. Does not this show powers of reasoning?—G. M. RAE (Mrs.), Womersley, Guildford, Surrey.

THE PRINCE REGENT'S MESSAGE

SIR.—When the news of the Duke of Wellington's victory at the Battle of Waterloo was received, the Prince Regent sent a personal note to the Marquis of Stafford. I have not been able to find what the message was. Can any reader of COUNTRY LIFE furnish information as to whether it was published, and, if so, where?—T. G. SCOTT, 19, Granville-road, Fallowfield, Manchester, 14.

THE QUEEN'S OAK, UNDER WHICH EDWARD IV IS SAID TO HAVE MET ELIZABETH WOODVILLE, AT GRAFTON REGIS, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

See letter: The Queen's Oak

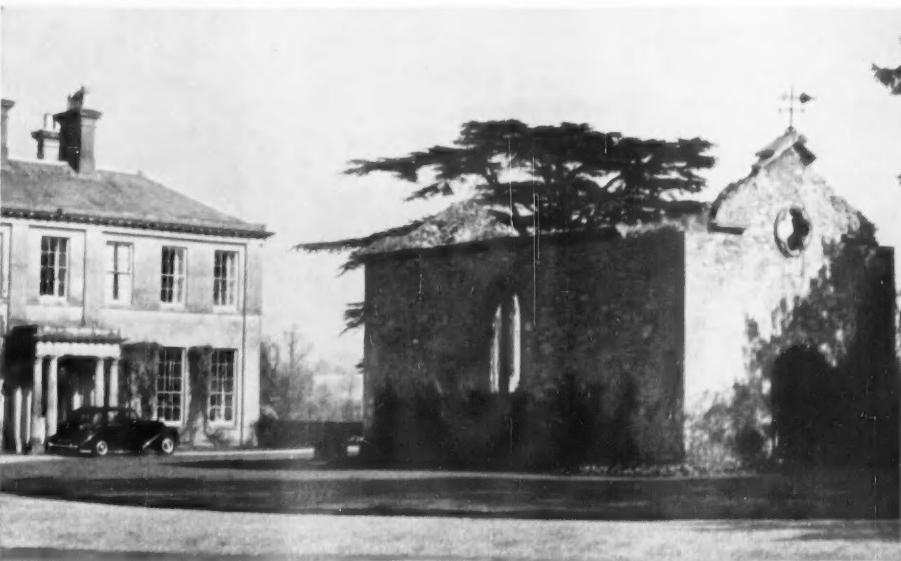
would suit a congregation of kestrels, but would hardly do for sparrow-hawks, which do not normally hover.—ED.

THE SHORTAGE OF HORSES

SIR.—I read the article entitled *The Shortage of Horses*, by R. S. Summers (April 5), with great interest. It is certainly a fact that the breeding of hunters in Ireland has almost ceased, but there are still a few available. There are so few, however, that it is hardly worth the dealers' while to

I should like to do something to help these small breeders to find buyers for their stock in order to encourage them to continue, and am contemplating collecting particulars of genuine horses, made hunters and likely to make, for sale in the central area of Ireland. These particulars I would make available to *bona fide* buyers with the object of helping them to find what they want.

I should be glad to hear from any of your readers who are interested or who have suggestions to make. I may add that I have no intention of



RUINED CHAPEL AT COTON HALL, SHROPSHIRE, ANCESTRAL HOME OF THE AMERICAN LEES. (Right) THE EAST WINDOW, WITH A FRAGMENT OF ROCOCO PLASTERWORK

See letter: A Link with America

THE COUNTRY TOWN TO-DAY

By E. W. MARTIN

THE country town to-day is at the centre of a provincial pattern which has to accommodate not only the interests of industry, but also the ancient loyalties of agriculture. Speed of communication and the rapid spread of ideas have drawn urban and rural England so closely together that, as suburbia spreads in all directions and the land area diminishes, many people are fearful lest the merits of the one and the beauties of the other may be merged in a deadly uniformity.

Any scrutiny of the urban historical background makes it clear at once that before the Industrial Revolution all towns—with the exception of London, which had become insulated early from rural life—were country towns. The great industrial and social changes

the manufacturing zones in the north and the midlands, with their reliance on steam and coal, became almost a separate part of England. They had lost all connection with the daily labour of the fields, whereas provincial cities and towns have been able to preserve this contact unbroken through centuries of change.

In mainly rural counties such as Suffolk, Norfolk, Herefordshire or Devon, the old agricultural framework of life has not been greatly disturbed. Market towns are spaced at fairly regular intervals around the predominant county town. In Herefordshire, for example, the county town acts as the focus of local activities. The municipal borough of Leominster and the market towns of Ross, Ledbury, Bromyard and Kington, situated about 12 to 15

administration, having a wide field of influence. Also in the urban scheme of things to-day there are major cities like Manchester, Birmingham, Liverpool, Bristol, Southampton and Sheffield, or even Plymouth and Bradford, which cannot be thought of as regional capitals, but rather as great towns that have split away from the region to evolve a separate life of their own.

Dominant capitals in the provincial setting are such county towns as York, Nottingham, Hereford, Cambridge, Oxford, Bedford, Salisbury, Dorchester and Exeter. To-day the provincial city, the county town, means far more to country people than it did in the past, for its life is now an attainable one rather than something set beyond the reach of villagers. The housewife who visits the shops, the farmer who



RICHMOND, YORKSHIRE, "IN MANY WAYS AN IDEAL COUNTRY TOWN." Like many such towns, Richmond is affected by lack of population and a shrinking market.

of the 19th century caused ancient market towns and trading centres of the calibre of Manchester, Birmingham and Liverpool to develop into industrial areas entirely given over to a worship of what Thomas Hardy called the gods of fire and water.

Yet, originally, all towns were tied up with agriculture; and the real difference—now so obvious—between industrial town and country town is one of degree rather than of kind. It is a matter entirely of the pace and extent of development. The new town expanded too rapidly and grew ugly and dark while the old town remained as picturesque and placid as it had always been.

A town may be described as a large collection of houses, having "service institutions for commerce, education, entertainment and religion, with a fixed distinguishing name." Or as a settlement based on a market or manufacture or, in the case of health resorts and tourist centres, on some particular facility or inheritance. All towns are finally dependent on the produce of agriculture, so, perhaps, the real difference between the town that is industrial and the true country town lies in the fact that

miles from the capital and from one another, support and deepen what originates from the county town. But in an industrial county, such as Lancashire, this ancient pattern has been changed and a very different one takes its place, with an emphasis directed towards the more complex needs of manufacture.

Our country towns offer different attractions and services and play their essential rôles in a country life that is already beginning to show deep-seated changes in the pace, range and quality of its internal rhythm and external influence, both socially and economically. They contribute to that fascinating variety which is one of the treasures of English villages, towns and shires. Because of these changes which are emerging it is possible to look at country towns to-day in three ways, or to divide them into three interdependent groups. These are made up of county towns, active market towns and the smaller, inactive places that shade away imperceptibly into the large village.

The first group, which is by far the most important, contains the local capitals or provincial cities which are at the heart of affairs as seats of local government, planning and

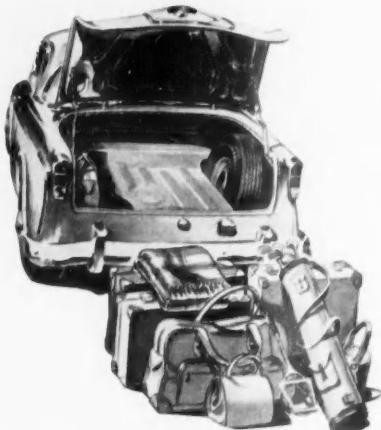
goes to the bank or the hospital, or the young people who attend the schools, clubs or cinemas feel themselves far more a part of the city's activities than did their grandparents 40 or 50 years ago. The car, the bus and the motorcycle have made this general appreciation possible.

The city may possess a university or university college, a daily or weekly newspaper that touches the county or region at all points, grammar and technical schools, a repertory theatre, banks and offices of all kinds and medical and dental services of the first grade. Throughout the country now, at a time when agriculture seems efficient and relatively prosperous, the larger places draw the eyes and stir the hearts and imaginations of country dwellers of all types. In counties such as Yorkshire, Devon or Wiltshire these eyes and hearts are fixed with pride on cities that are the foundations of county patriotism and stand for those particular qualities in education and recreation that are still products of the provinces.

That great observer of life and nature, W. H. Hudson, has illustrated perfectly what Salisbury meant to villagers who lived on the



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**MOMPESON HOUSE IN SALISBURY,
A DOMINANT PROVINCIAL CAPITAL.**
*"To-day the provincial city, the county town,
means far more to country people than it did
in the past"*

Plain half a century ago. Hudson called it the head and heart of those villages that surrounded the city. It then offered amusement and refreshment to those villagers living near by, but to-day the cathedral city and market town is also a military and shopping centre, and the gathering-place for rural folk within a radius of 50 miles, drawing them from Warminster, Amesbury, Devizes and parts of Dorset and Hampshire.

Salisbury, like York or Exeter, has become the place in which much that is best and most characteristic of county life may be found. From such cities a sense of unity is derived, because the influence of the capital penetrates to the most remote hamlet through the provincial newspapers, health services or some voluntary organisation which has its headquarters in the city.

If these country capitals are the real centres of active life and leaders in education, social services and recreation within a county or region, what part is played by the market towns? The average market town to-day can be described as a service centre. If it is of the lively and adventurous variety it will have a practical utility for the farmer. This second group contains towns desirous of increasing economic opportunities, and they will offer a fairly wide range of banking and agricultural services, shopping facilities, a cinema, offices of bodies such as the National Farmers' Union, as well as a public library, and dental and medical services.

Many such towns that once flourished through the popularity of their markets now suffer from competition with larger neighbours. Richmond, in many ways an ideal country town, situated in the North Riding of Yorkshire, is a good example of the way in which smaller towns are now cramped and held back in their ambitions by lack of population and some local industry to replace the loss sustained by the shrinkage of the market. The same is true of such towns in Devon and East Anglia; and this is due almost entirely to vast improvements in methods of cattle transport and to the increased efficiency and higher standards of farmers, dealers and merchants.

A Mayor of Richmond recently pleaded for some consideration to be shown to that England which lies outside the great cities and industrial towns. Such towns would welcome industries suited to their environment, and they have great possibilities for growth.

The third group of country towns are places

that have long been affected by the inertia of those dwindling villages that surround them. No hard-and-fast line is drawn in England between town and village. Anyone who has visited Braunton in Devon, one of the largest of our villages, will know that it has a more urban appearance than many spots proudly referred to as small towns. Their populations decline and their local industries are few or non-existent, so that the problems they face are almost identical with those of the villages that are being drawn together into groups to ensure the survival of their customs and institutions.

Country towns occupy a more central place in country life now because the village has become too small a unit to maintain alone the rural spirit and tradition. As range of work and amusement has been greatly enlarged, the more mobile countryman of to-day can think, work and play not simply as a citizen of the small town in which he may live, but with the city as the conscious limit of all his activities.



LANE IN LEDBURY, HEREFORDSHIRE, A TYPICAL MARKET TOWN WHICH SPREADS THE INFLUENCE OF THE COUNTY TOWN



"A View of Plymouth from Mutley," by Ambrose John, 1776-1858.
Oil, canvas 25 ins. x 30 ins. Lich.: Arts Council, Grant Collection, No. 27.



Ritual vessel in translucent pale celadon jade.
Chien Lung, 1736-1795. Length, 8½ inches.



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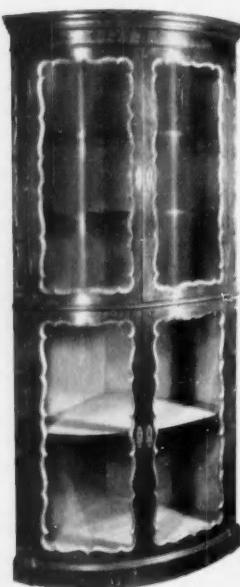
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A CAUSERIE ON BRIDGE

FLASHBACK ◦ By M. HARRISON-GRAY

IT is a fatal error for a Bridge writer to hunt up a reference in an old magazine when working against time. The object of his search is forgotten as page after page revives memories of events in the dim past. Thus my eye was caught and held overtime by an account of "the match of the year" in a 1937 issue of *The British Bridge World*. Sad to think that my team-mates on that occasion, Lederer, Rose and Simon, are no longer with us.

The B.B.W. report started with a slight understatement: "Some of the Bridge suffered from the fact that five of the players engaged had travelled that day from Harrogate, where they had been playing in the Congress." Speaking for Simon and myself, we checked in with a minute to spare after a Monte Carlo Rally dash on icy roads through a blinding snowstorm—scarcely the ideal preparation for six hours of supercharged Bridge. I read, however, that we were "in irresistible form," and it was vaguely disappointing, I recall, to find that we had lost after 48 boards by exactly 100 ordinary points.

The great Richard Lederer was in still worse shape after a stiff programme at Harrogate, and his famous hit-or-miss tactics were well in evidence. On one hand Simon and I performed a major miracle in defeating a vulnerable Three No-Trumps for a likely swing of 700-odd; in the replay Lederer duly made ten tricks where our opponents had made only eight, but his contract was the rather unusual one of Five No-Trumps redoubled. Simon was always fair. "The old boy can at least play the cards," he conceded.

And now for a hand which started a whole flood of reminiscence and speculation:

West	East
♠ K Q 7 6 5	♠ A 8 2
♥ K Q 8 4 3	♥ A J 7 6
♦ K 9	♦ A 5 3
♣ 5	♣ A Q 3

Dealer, West. Neither side vulnerable.

In Room 1, where Simon and I were North-South, the rival pair bid thus: One Spade—Three Hearts; Four Hearts—Four No-Trumps (Culbertson); Five Spades—Six Spades. West was in delirium throughout the auction. Had he made the book reply to Four No-Trumps, denying an Ace with a call of Five in the lowest-ranking bid suit, East would have shown his four Aces by bidding Five No-Trumps, and Seven Hearts would then come automatically from West. But the sign-off in this case was Five Hearts. How could West consider such a call after responding to the force on his four-loser hand with the colossal underbid of Four Hearts?

West's actual choice, Five Spades, was neither fish, flesh nor fowl. Holding the Kings of both bid suits, he could tell that his partner's Four No-Trump bid must be based on three Aces; the natural response is a jump to Six Hearts which might have induced East to bid Seven. Simon, faintly patronising whenever his pet convention was ill-used, pointed out that East could still have saved the ship, after Four No-Trumps—Five Spades, by bidding Five No-Trumps; this would show either three Aces and a bid King, or all four Aces, and the latter combination could be identified by West.

"We can write this one off," said an opponent. "I can't see Lederer staying out of Seven." His forecast was correct. Playing without slam conventions, Rose (West) and Lederer started as before with One Spade—Three Hearts—Four Hearts. Lederer, in no state to worry over technical niceties, took a simple view: "Willie has opened and raised Hearts without an Ace in his hand, so what am I waiting for? Seven Hearts!" Well, this was one Lederer thrust that came home, but I cannot help thinking that Rose would have bid the same way on a hand of this type:

♠ K Q J 10 ♥ 10 9 8 4 ♦ K Q 9 ♣ K 5

You may be thinking, "What a pity they weren't playing Blackwood." West does indeed appear to have the ideal hand for a bid of Four No-Trumps over his partner's Three Hearts;

but certain pundits, when I showed them the hand, were uncertain on this score. Supposing East's hand were this:

♠ 8 ♥ A J 10 9 7 2 ♦ A ♣ A K Q J 6

After One Spade—Three Hearts; Four No-Trumps—Five Spades; Six Hearts, can he refrain from bidding Seven? Will he allow for the one specific holding which entitles West to bid so enthusiastically without a single Ace in his hand? But the ultimate Blackwood authority in this country, Leslie Dodds, disagreed. West should certainly bid Four No-Trumps, and East, with the hypothetical hand shown above, must accept Six Hearts as the final contract; because he should know that West cannot have the Ace of Spades. The explanation is interesting. Suppose that West's hand is this:

♠ A Q 7 6 5 ♥ K Q 8 4 3 ♦ K 9 ♣ 5

Over the Blackwood response of Five Spades, says Dodds, West must say Five No-Trumps to confirm that all four Aces are held; this gives East a chance to bid Seven, after Six Diamonds—Six Hearts, if he holds certain excess values.

Here, again, are the original hands:

West	East
♠ K Q 7 6 5	♠ A 8 2
♥ K Q 8 4 3	♥ A J 7 6
♦ K 9	♦ A 5 3
♣ 5	♣ A Q 3

Let us suppose that Blackwood is in use, and that the bidding starts as it did in the match: One Spade—Three Hearts—Four Hearts. West having passed up the opportunity, East has to say Four No-Trumps; West bids Five Clubs, and East continues with Five No-Trumps to show the four Aces. There is no need for West to subject his partner to further strain by making the book reply of Six Spades for the sake of showing his Kings—after all, there are plenty of hands consistent with his bidding that would not offer the right odds for Seven, and East might feel tempted to drop the bidding at Six Spades. It should occur to West

that his partner may be worried about the solidity of the Hearts, whereas he, West, can see that Seven Hearts must be cast-iron, so he might just as well bid it without further ado.

The hand raises another point. A forcing take-out, as Culbertson used to say, is a necessary evil; for the greater good, it consumes a round of bidding. When the force over One Spade is in Hearts, the partnership is severely cramped for bidding space, for there is only one rebid below the game level (Three Spades) available to the opener. Although East has no other biddable suit, is Three Hearts the right call on his hand?

There is a further objection. If Hearts are supported, at any level, East will be haunted by the fear of a gap in the trump suit; with such a weak holding, will he not feel far happier if the suit is bid spontaneously by his partner? The solution in such cases is to force in the non-biddable Club suit; if you think it out, you will find that East can cope comfortably with the various rebids now available to West, including a raise to Four Clubs.

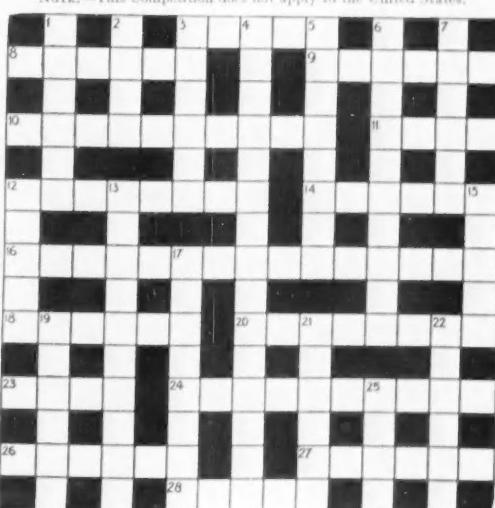
In practice Three Clubs elicits a pleasing reply of Three Hearts, and bidding continues with Four No-Trumps (Blackwood)—Five Clubs; Five No-Trumps—Seven Hearts. From West's angle it is conceivable that East's force was based on fine Spade support, but he can always convert the last call to Seven Spades. The full sequence is identical if the Culbertson Four-Five convention is in use; over Four No-Trumps West again denies an Ace by bidding Five Clubs (the lowest-ranking bid suit), but he jumps to Seven Hearts when East shows his four Aces with a bid of Five No-Trumps.

What trains of thought are started by an accidental glimpse of a relic from the past! I remember how Simon and I, half-dead with hunger and exhaustion, staggered to a restaurant, where "Skid" tackled a typical sequence—porridge, Knickerbocker Glory, brace of kippers—before repeating the same order. No wonder he died young.

CROSSWORD NO. 1380

COUNTRY LIFE books to the value of 3 guineas will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions (in a closed envelope) must reach "Crossword No. 1380, COUNTRY LIFE, 240, Tavistock-street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," not later than the *first post on the morning of Wednesday, July 25, 1956*.

NOTE.—This Competition does not apply to the United States.



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Address

SOLUTION TO NO. 1379. The winner of this Crossword, the clues which appeared in the issue of July 12, will be announced next week.

ACROSS.—1, Palimpsest; 6, Gait; 9, Chiffchaff; 10, Gate; 12, Feels; 13, Liege lord; 14, Sears; 16, Golden; 20, Phant; 21, Thief; 25, Red grove; 26, Stole; 27, Ober; 28, Stridulate; 29, Sole; 30, Lengthened. **DOWN.**—1, Pacify; 2, Loiter; 3, Muffs; 4, Scholars; 5, Suffer; 7, Anaconda; 8, Treading; 11, Remote; 15, Canary; 17, Spurious; 18, Wild-fowl; 19, Cheering; 22, Hustle; 23, Remain; 24, Detend; 26, South.

ACROSS

3. Make a distribution in a political lottery (5)
8. Might be blamed for its confusion (6)
9. A Cornish artist at going in may send you to sleep (6)
10. "Life's but a walking shadow, a —————" —Shakespeare (4, 6)
11. Not a grass drink (4)
12. Two fifties and a very loud ending in Wales (8)
14. Absence of swank at the end of the match (6)
16. He was in command at Dettingen (6, 3, 6)
18. It might come from the tar (6)
20. Bellini but not Botticelli (8)
23. Skin (4)
24. Clean truce (anagr.) (10)
26. The lady of Ivanhoe (6)
27. Fighting river? (6)
28. The right kind of hen for Marney (5)

DOWN

1. After discharge (6)
2. This is not at all clear (4)
3. Is the heroine saying she is a lamb? (6)
4. Pale lowland beauty (4, 2, 3, 6)
5. They might be a result of fission on Dartmoor (8)
6. Blue-eyed Oriental (7, 3)
7. Go aground off Waterloo Bridge (6)
12. "The line of festal — in Christ Church hall" —Matthew Arnold (8)
13. Do they never grow up in their gardens? (10)
15. Lord Chancellor who, as the Cockney might have said, stuck there (5)
17. Affairs at the Foreign Office (8)
19. The reed Blake plucked (6)
21. Drink from three-quarters of a decanter (6)
22. Hope's nautical emblem (6)
25. The first man in the architectural profession? (4)

The winner of Crossword No. 1378 is

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THE ESTATE MARKET

RENT PROBLEMS

MR. GEOFFREY D. BLAKE, the new president of the Chartered Auctioneers and Estate Agents' Institute, commented in his presidential address (to which I referred last week) on the Rent Restrictions Acts, which are not only the most numerous, but also the most contentious of the conglomeration of laws that burden property owners.

The group of Acts of Parliament known collectively as the Rent Acts—notorious for 40 years—had, he said, been piled one on another until it was only a very bold man who would boast a full knowledge of them; and though he agreed that in times of stress and shortage security of tenure was necessary, he went on to say that shortly before the last war there were signs that the time was in sight when occupiers of sub-standard accommodation would be able to rent or buy decent homes, largely as a result of private enterprise. In his view, however, the impossible position created for rent restricted houses during and since the war had scared off private enterprise, in spite of the fact that the Acts did not now apply to new dwellings, except when built with the help of a Government grant. "Tenants," he said, "are loath to pay economic rents for new dwellings which are proportionately in value far more than rents paid for restricted dwellings."

BURDEN OF REPAIRS

IN this last sentence Mr. Blake strikes at one of the serious weaknesses of rent restriction. Another, and more serious, shortcoming of the Acts, as they now stand, is the disparity between the income derived from rents and the money spent on repairs. No one suggests that in times when accommodation is in short supply landlords should be allowed to extort rents ten times as great as those that they would have asked in normal times. But equally it is absurd to peg the rents of the bulk of the nation's dwelling-houses at 1939 figures and to expect landlords to foot the bill for repairs and upkeep at 1956 prices.

What, then, is the solution? In Mr. Blake's view, all the existing Rent Acts should be torn up and an effort should be made to find some simple way of arriving at rents that bear reasonable relation to the real rental value of the dwellings and their cost of upkeep. If this were done, he believes, not only would there be a greater demand for new council houses which have been causing embarrassment to local authorities owing to the preference of many families for living in older houses where rents are restricted, but also many older houses would pass from the hands of "hornets," who are able to make such properties pay only by dodging their legal and moral obligations, to landlords who would seek to preserve them.

LIFE IN VANCOUVER

IT is always interesting to hear about how other people live, and I, for one, was fascinated by a brochure sent me by Messrs. Hampton and Sons that gives a brief description of the prices of houses and other commodities in the Vancouver district of British Columbia. So far as houses are concerned, it has long been the policy of Canadian Governments to encourage people to own their own homes, and national housing legislation provides for low down payments, low interest rates and long-term mortgages, with the gratifying result that to-day nearly three-quarters of the families of Greater Vancouver own their homes. Houses are varied in design, and, judging by the high wages paid—carpenters receive 15s. 9d. an hour and an experienced draughtsman earns as much as £42 10s. a week—they are cheap.

For example, a four-roomed stucco bungalow with tiled bathroom and heated by an automatic oil furnace sells for £3,200 (cash down payment £982, monthly payments, including interest, £25), and a Western-style ranch bungalow consisting of seven rooms, with an all-electric kitchen, automatic oil central heating and a garage for two cars is priced at £10,000, a first mortgage of £6,000 being available if required. Prices are based on an exchange rate of 2.80 dollars to the £.

A NATIONAL TRUST OFFER

THE National Trust is trying to find a tenant, on a long lease, for one of the most interesting and historic houses in Devon—Dunsland House, which is five miles from Holswoorth and fourteen from Okehampton. It is interesting for two reasons in particular. First, although it was built in four or five stages, from the 13th century onwards, the passage of time has weathered it into a beautiful unity suggesting the 17th century. It is built mainly of stone with a slate roof and has some panelled rooms and some excellent plasterwork in the style of Grinling Gibbons. The second reason is that it has descended by inheritance for at least 600 years, and probably much longer. Among the families that have owned it are the Battyns, the Arscott, the Bickfords and the Cohams, the last of whom died in 1921.

It is not a large house—four reception rooms and five principal bedrooms—but there are nine acres of outbuildings and gardens. Sixty acres of farm land are also available. The rent, except for the farm land, would be nominal, but the tenant would be required to spend roughly £5,000 on repairs and improvements, and to show the house to the public in summer on two afternoons weekly. He would be responsible also for all future repairs and outgoings. Further particulars can be obtained from Mr. F. H. Reeks, the Holmecote Estate Office, near Minehead, Somerset.

BERKSHIRE ESTATE FOR SALE

IT is not often that an opportunity occurs to buy an estate of upwards of 1,500 acres in Berkshire where all the land is in hand, and one imagines that Messrs. John German and Son will receive numerous enquiries for Hungerford Park, which they are offering on behalf of Mr. N. F. Turner and the executors of the late A. G. Turner. Hungerford Park, a stucco-rendered Regency house with later additions, stands in 1,645 acres, of which 1,370 acres are farm land, and 275 acres are woodland and plantations. The farms are well equipped, having two houses, four blocks of buildings and 23 cottages, all served with main electricity and piped water, and the woods and plantations are placed strategically from the point of view of the shooting, which is one of the attractions of the property. Last season more than 1,000 head of game were killed on the estate, and approximately 500 pheasants have been reared in preparation for the coming season.

FOR SALE IN SURREY

A PROPERTY of historic and architectural interest that has recently come on to the market is the manor house at Stoke D'Abernon, Surrey. This Georgian house, which was the subject of illustrated articles by Mr. Christopher Hussey in COUNTRY LIFE on November 21 and 28, 1941, occupies the site of an earlier building that was inhabited by Roger Dawbernon, the Normand, in 1100. It stands in 126 acres and is offered with the land, two lodges and several smaller houses by Messrs. Jackson-Stops and Staff's London office and Messrs. Hewett and Lee,

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FARMING NOTES

WHEAT THE CROP OF THE YEAR

WITH the heads standing close together, the wheat crop looks exceptionally promising, and on the clay ground wheat will almost certainly be the crop of the year. Wheat likes a dry sunny time before harvest and, although some of the lighter soils have been rather dry and powdery, the wheat has kept on growing, while the barley in one or two places had begun to die back last week. The heavy thunder rain has refreshed everything now, but some pieces of barley were probably too far stricken by drought to recover. It is really remarkable how well almost all the spring-sown corn has done this year. It went into fine seed bed, and almost everywhere now farmers are using the combined seed and fertiliser drills which place the manure where it will do the most good straight away to the young seedling plants. We have more courage to use fertilisers generally now, since the plant breeders provide us with stiffer-strawed kinds of wheat and barley. Some of the oat crops are not up to standard in the southern counties. Oats thrive on more moisture than the other grain crops. Scotland and Wales seem to have better oat crops generally than England.

Ayrshires in the West

WEST COUNTRY farmers have turned over to Ayrshire cows in a big way in the last 12 years. The Ayrshire proportion to total cows has risen from 8 to 18 per cent in the West Midland region, in the Mid-Western region from 8 to 16 per cent, and in the Far-Western region from 5 to 13 per cent. The British Friesians have increased markedly, too; they now have the lead over any other single breed, reaching 45 per cent of the total in the West Midland region. These increases are at the expense of the Dairy Shorthorn breed. Here is a reason for the lead which the Shorthorn Society is giving in the campaign to win recognition for the content of solids in milk. The Ayrshire does at least as well as the Shorthorn in this respect.

The Extra Gallon

WARNING milk producers that the country could not afford to spend too much foreign exchange to buy feeding-stuffs to produce more milk, the Minister of Agriculture has committed himself to the point that each additional gallon of milk costs about 1s. in foreign exchange. The Ministry reckons, no doubt rightly, that the average feeding rate for the extra gallon which many farmers produced last winter was at least 4½ lb. of cake. The import cost of 4½ lb. of concentrate, together with about 1d. a gallon for the cost of other imports used in milk production, comes to about 1s. It is well to have this clear. At first it seemed that the Minister was arguing that every gallon of milk produced here cost 1s. in foreign exchange. The final gallons in high-yielding herds where cake is generously fed may well do so.

Experimental Husbandry

ON soils ranging from the chalk in Hampshire and Yorkshire to the clay in Cambridgeshire and the silt of South Lincolnshire the Ministry of Agriculture has established 11 experimental husbandry farms. Their findings and the recommendations based on experience gained there are now considered worthy of a special Ministry publication, *Experimental Husbandry* (Stationery Office, 3s.). It is questionable whether this is justified, as there are surely adequate channels

already by which records of experimental work reach the technical advisers and farmers themselves. Anyway, it is useful to know that the results of 41 experiments in the Eastern and West Midland provinces show that 2-3 cwt. of sulphate of ammonia or its equivalent give profitable results on the stiffer-strawed varieties of spring wheat irrespective of locality, level of fertility of the soil, type of soil or the previous cropping. The responses to heavier applications proved inconsistent, which is not surprising.

Silver Medals

THE judges at this year's Royal Show were quite generous in the allocation of silver medals for new implements. No awards are made without a test of the new piece of equipment, and this frequently means that a decision on an entry is deferred because the tests have not been completed. However, this year, in addition to the Burke Challenge Trophy, five silver medals were awarded. They went to Agricultural Supplies (Cambridge) for their Simplex grain-drying system, Atkinsons Agricultural Appliances for a silo aid, T. T. Boughton and Sons for a tractor winch, Gasgoignes (Reading) for a bulkholder superfreeze farm milk tank and Scottish Mechanical Light Industries for an instantaneous moisture meter. The trophy for the best new implement was awarded to H. Leverton and Company, of Spalding, for a bulb lifter which has proved efficient for lifting bulbs quickly and leaving the ground in good clean condition.

Railway Rabbits

ON my journey to and from the Royal Show I saw rabbits in one place only. There were three of them grazing unconcerned near the railway embankment as the train rushed by just south of Retford in Nottinghamshire. Railway embankments have often provided a home for rabbits in the past, but we look to the British Transport Commission to be as active and ruthless now as other landowners in getting rid of rabbits as soon as they appear.

Manure for Potatoes

A DRY summer shows up differences in the scale of manuring potatoes, and particularly the value of farm-yard manure in encouraging enough foliage to make a fair crop of potatoes. Where a dressing of dung is given, the phosphate and potash in the organic fertiliser dressing can be reduced, but not the nitrogen.

Mr. W. J. Cumber

BY the appointment of honorary fellows the Royal Agricultural Society of England is able to mark services of outstanding value to agriculture. The fellowship conferred on Mr. W. J. Cumber is in recognition of his work for the general good of agriculture, and he has not been particularly associated with the R.A.S.E. Indeed, it is remarkable how one man has found time to do so much public work, in addition to farming 2,000 acres in Berkshire and Wiltshire. Mr. Cumber has been president of the Smithfield Club, the Shorthorn Society, the Shire Horse Society and the British Horse Society and chairman of the Farmers' Club. He is now chairman of Berkshire County Council. So in one way and another he should not lack something to occupy his mind. Mr. John Cumber, his son, who is a member of the R.A.S.E. Council, bids fair to match his father in time.

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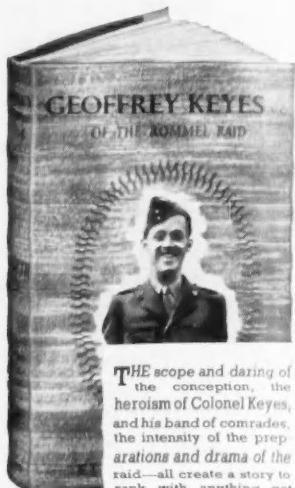
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NEW BOOKS

A VICTORIAN CHILDHOOD

Reviews by HOWARD SPRING

MARION LOCHHEAD'S *Their First Ten Years* (John Murray, 21s.) is an attempt, successful on the whole, to recover something of the flavour of Victorian childhood. There is necessarily a lot in it, too, about Victorian men and women, for the world a child lives in for its first decade is not chosen but imposed, so far, at any rate, as its material aspect goes. You have only to look around you now to see that it is the parent who determines the environment: whether the child shall have radio, television, cinema; whether it shall go on its feet or ride in a car, what books it shall read, what holidays

give us a close-up of the opening years, it is almost impossible to trace in detail even one life from out of that anonymous horde. The author is troubled by even the recollection of the abyss between poor and well-to-do. She writes of the children of noblemen passing from town house to country house and to foreign parts, protected at every step by an entourage of servants, and of the children of the middle classes more sedately but not less effectively guarded; and she says: "The nurseries of this land might have been devastated by furious mobs. But by the undeserved mercy of God, the Christian action of a few, and the

THEIR FIRST TEN YEARS. By Marion Lochhead

(John Murray, 21s.)

CLOSE OF A DYNASTY. By Vice-Admiral Sir Francis Pridham

(Wingate, 18s.)

THE RELUCTANT LEGIONNAIRE. By Michael Alexander

(Hart-Davis, 16s.)

it shall have; what it shall eat, what it shall drink, wherewithal it shall be clothed, whether, returned from school, it shall find mother at work or at the cinema, and be given the key of the street. The more you look at it, the more it is clear that any story about the first ten years is a story about men and women, not about children. Miss Lochhead writes: "Children were, then as now, happy or miserable according to circumstances and temperament. There were some startling contrasts. In general there was more discipline, a greater security, than now; it was a stable society, and a more domestic one. Beyond that it is hardly safe to make generalisations."

NO TOYS FOR THE WORKERS

On the whole, the world we have here is created by parents, nurses and governesses; but there were enormous areas of living, inhabited by "the workers" and their offspring, in which the parents were not able to do much except get the children off to work at the earliest moment, say at the age of six, and nurses and governesses belonged to a fabulous world. You can't write about the toys of these children, because there were no toys and no time for toying. You can't write about the books they read, because few of them could read, and so, in a book with the sub-title *Victorian Childhood*, there is a great gap, which the author fills as best she can with a chapter called *Outside the nursery: those other children*. It is a brutal story, well enough known—"the hours were from six in summer till ten at night, in winter from seven in the morning until dark"—and one thing that can give us comfort to-day is that children no longer live in such conditions, though new dangers both to body and mind have been plentifully provided.

However, whereas Miss Lochhead is able to take many individual cases, from Queen Victoria downward, and

incredible patience of the poor, a peaceful way of life and a seemly measure of civilisation were saved. The nursery itself was not left unaware of that process."

MORALITY THROUGH BOOKS

And that brings us to the main current of her narrative: the books that children read and the books that they wrote when, grown up, they looked back on their childhood. In both sorts, there is an enormous store of matter to be drawn upon, and Miss Lochhead draws upon it to illustrate not only English but also American and French ways of bringing up children. She is not of those who find nothing but matter for derision in such novels as those of Charlotte Yonge, the eminent nursery favourite of her time. She "inculcated good morals and sound discipline: obedience, modesty, gentleness and courtesy. But they gave children a place in literature, both as readers and as created characters, never before granted them and never to be lost." These books, and such books as Kingsley's *The Water Babies* with its glimpses of Tom the chimney-sweep, gave windows on to the unprivileged many, which is what the author has in mind when she writes of the nursery being "not left unaware" of what was happening beyond the security of its four walls.

A good theme that would make a book in itself is suggested in this sentence: "Had the Anglican Church continued the discipline of celibacy of the clergy, the social and literary history of England would have been considerably different." Compile a list of the men and women of letters who have sprung from parsonages, and you will begin to see what she means.

In a summing up, Miss Lochhead stresses authority and discipline as dominant upon the young Victorian life, and adds: "With authority and discipline, however, went security, that quality that was attacked in one

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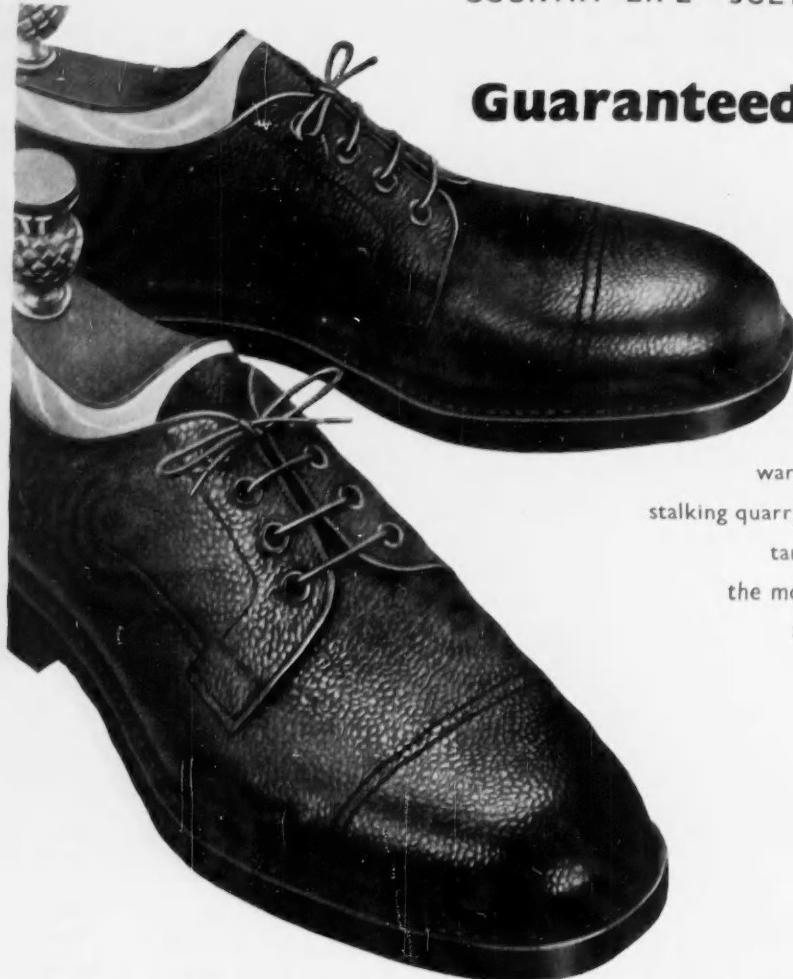
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REVIEWS by HOWARD SPRING—continued

war and destroyed in the next. The children of the poor, in the Victorian age, dwelt outside this shelter, but now even wealth cannot build the walls of safety." It is odd how many reformers, jeering at the authority and discipline of the Victorian name, wish to bring us all under the authority and discipline of the amorphous State. The problem of the nursery is, indeed, the problem of all human association: how to balance the wish to have our own way against the necessity to hold things together.

RESCUING THE ROMANOFS

Vice-Admiral Sir Francis Pridham was an officer aboard H.M.S. *Marlborough* during the first World War. The end of that war found Reds and Whites still fighting in Russia. The Emperor Nicholas and his Empress had been assassinated, but there were still Romanoffs in the country. Some of them had moved south to their summer palaces in the Crimea, and among them were the Emperor's mother, widow of Alexander III. She had been a Danish princess, sister of our Queen Alexandra. There was also the Grand Duchess Xenia, the murdered Emperor's sister. A fair number of others were there in the Crimea. The Red Army was advancing. The *Marlborough* was sent to Yalta to take the Romanoffs aboard. In *Close of a Dynasty* (Wingate, 18s.) Sir Francis tells how this operation was carried out. He himself was "placed in charge of the arrangements for accommodating our distinguished passengers: a job which grew into being that of major-domo cum A.D.C. to the Imperial party while they were aboard."

It was no small task making provision for twenty Romanoffs, 25 ladies and gentlemen in attendance, 36 servants and 200 tons of luggage. A few days later the party was put ashore at Malta, and the job was done. The incident hardly, in itself, provides matter for a book, but Sir Francis Pridham fills it out with his first-hand account of the chaotic condition of that part of the world at that time, with a résumé of the events of the revolution and of the tussle between Reds and Whites, and with one startling piece of irrelevance which nevertheless is of great interest. He writes of being present at the surrender of the German fleet in Scapa Flow and of Sir David Beatty's address aboard H.M.S. *Revenge*, which has never before been made public. A German sailor, Sir David said, was "not a sailor at all, not a man at all, nothing but a murdering rascal. I therefore warn you to let no feelings of pity rise up within you; nothing but contempt should fill your minds. . . . They are not honourable foes nor chivalrous enemies, and should not be treated as such." It is here verbatim, though Sir David gave orders that no report of it should be made.

ESCAPE FROM THE LEGION

"Nick and I shared a frightful magenta room, bearable only in the thought that Baudelaire would have been at home in it." "On the modish periphery, among caravans of camels, stood scabby little sub-villages of tins and rags housing those who had either failed to achieve the protective walls or who had some time or other been squeezed like poison out of a wound." A man who writes as well as this deserves a better theme than Mr. Michael Alexander has found in *The*

Reluctant Legionnaire (Hart-Davis, 16s.), though the book is not without point in showing that "bright young things" did not vanish with the '20s. A bright young man about town grew tired of his life and joined the Foreign Legion. Letters that he sent to friends contained home thoughts from abroad, and made clear to Mr. Alexander the duty of setting out to rescue him. But the modern young are not all that impetuous, and Mr. Alexander took care to consult a literary agent, who brought off the considerable feat of selling book rights, serial rights and American rights before the author was out of England. He went accompanied by a baronet's son and the bright young daughter of an earl, who abandoned the adventure half-way through in order to go back and work in a night club. Tagging along in the rear were a reporter, a lady correspondent and a press photographer.

HIGH SPIRITS

Unhappily, the captive legionnaire had already once escaped and been recaptured. As a security measure he was now being moved from barracks to barracks, and every time the rescuer's hand came down he had vanished like a minnow pursued in a stream. Every time except the last. They got him in the long run, and he was smuggled home, and all ended so satisfactorily that a Sunday newspaper was able to begin a paragraph: "A modern Beau Geste story ended yesterday in a society wedding at St. Margaret's, Westminster."

The moral seems to be that, if you want to rescue a legionnaire, you can. It's only a matter of dashing hither and thither in cars, talking to chance-met members of the Legion, and, sooner or later, seeing your man walking along a street, picking him up and driving away. Mr. Alexander carries it through with high spirits and with writing that is always good and sometimes excellent. I was especially amused by his play with guide-book phrases, as thus: "The road was descending as we passed through the sad little town of Blida (*une des localités les plus riantes de l'Algérie*)."

WILD LIFE AT NIGHT

M AXWELL KNIGHT'S *Animals After Dark* (Routledge, 15s.) gives an account of the night activities of many British animals, from badgers and toads to owls and snails. Most of these creatures are not completely nocturnal. Some, such as shrews and voles, hunt their food for twenty-four hours a day; others, as the fox, are most active at night but will often be about in the daytime as well. Whether an animal is nocturnal or not will depend largely upon the habits of its prey and is a characteristic which can be altered, at least in captivity.

Mr. Knight has many observations on the senses of wild creatures. Perhaps the most interesting is the owl: though its sight is adapted for seeing in the minimum of light, it hunts chiefly by sound, being helped by the silence of its wings. Mr. Knight hazards a guess that the owl's ears, each of which is differently formed, act as directional finders for the rustlings of the prey. The book is full of the author's own personal experiences; he has seen a mother otter teaching her young to swim, a grass snake active at night in the winter, and owls hunting in pairs down a woodland ride. Altogether this small book is a good introduction to a world of which most people know little, and it explodes a number of popular misconceptions.



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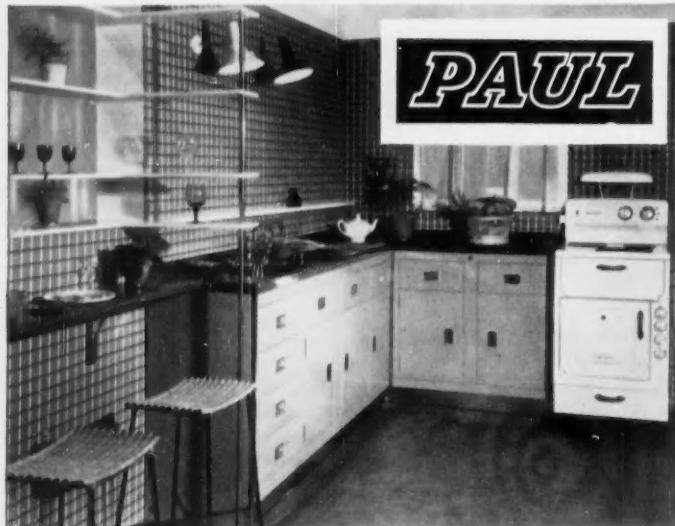
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The Rev-Robe shown here is in real Irish Linen trimmed green or red, and costs £9.19.6d. It has a tray-lid (shown in the foreground) with compartments for shoes, underwear, etc. . . . Other models from £5.50d. to £19.10.0d. There are also Rev-Robes for men from £7.15.0d.



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SUDDENLY the most out-of-date item in a wardrobe is that top-fashion hat such as is bought by each smart woman in the first flush of the Paris summer collections. At the end of summer we shall be heartily glad to discard for ever the white folded "meringue" toque and the spot organza folded-dome shape which we have seen so much of. Now the less noticeable hats come into their own, and the forerunners of next season are bought.

The summer theme is echoed, naturally enough, in all the autumn collections, but the deep toque has become more of a bucket pull-on shape in felt or melusine that has not the outsize proportions of the summer models. In this more compact size it is ready for the wind and more wearable altogether. Another treatment is as a cap rather like a fez that is worked in layers of felt or velvet, often brightly coloured, so that it is a good choice with a tweed suit or dress, or with one of the fashionable blonde ribbed wool dresses or a light coat at resorts.

There are many fur caps and berets included in the first displays for wearing with sleek town clothes, as well as numerous velvet or felt ones that are banded with fur to match a cravat or collar. These are small judged by the summer crop. However, a fluffy beret in melusine is everywhere in the big wholesale collections and is large and also most becoming, while an oval felt one banded with melusine is

(Right) Cotton separates in geranium pink printed with ripe strawberries and their leaves in natural colourings. The sleeveless blouse has a sailor collar (Dorville)



A cotton dress cut on a formal pattern featuring the easy waistline and three-quarter sleeves. It is in sunflower yellow with a pattern of Chinese motifs amid trees traced in black (Horrockses)

Photographs by COUNTRY LIFE Studio

medium-shaped. Both are being bought in white for late summer holidays. Simone Mirman's close little toque with a wasp waist is smart for a slender dark outfit, even in linen. For in-between times and holidays the berets made entirely from narrow soutache braid—yards of it worked into scrolls and then stitched together—look chic and should prove flattering to most people, as they can be worn at various angles, and the shape can be adapted easily on the head. A chenille pull-on cap is another that would pack into a corner and look smart during August, when summer hats begin to look passé. This is an inexpensive cap that covers most of the hair. It is pointed and worked entirely in narrow serrated bands, layer upon layer.

The fabric makers and shoemakers have prepared new lines for the couturier shows that will be held at the end of July and the beginning of August in London, Paris and Rome. A neutral colour to look for among shoes shortly to be released is a bronze tinged with olive green, a fascinating muted colour that blends with most others. This is new in the Russell and Bromley collection and is suggested as a change from the blondes, the beaver and mink browns. Everywhere the extreme suppleness of the leathers is noticeable, a novelty is the wooden heels covered



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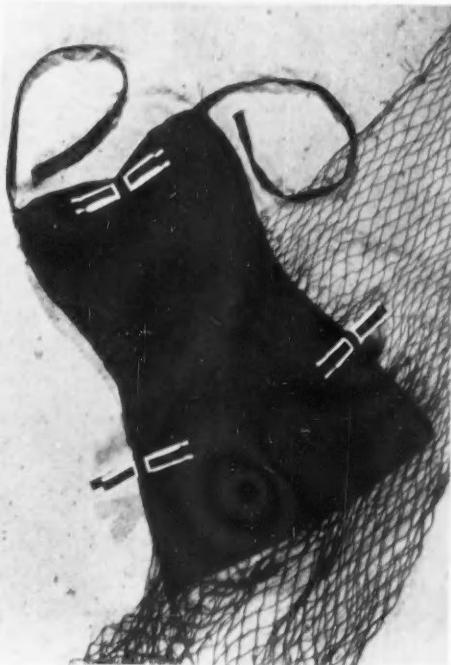
with a layer of compressed leather, which gives the strength of leather and keeps the heel light at the same time.

One of the most spectacular sets of new fabrics is the nylon jerseys that were first seen at the Nylon Fair in the spring, and are now being made up by many of the manufacturers as simple sheath dresses. The nylon is knitted into fancy twisted ribs, close honeycomb or bold, or raised chicken-wire patterns, and the dresses are moulded from the throat to the hem with the ribs worked vertically. The surface is matt and the handle similar to that of suede.

Suitings in Terylene will be available in heavier weights than they have been and consist of 35 per cent. Terylene and 65 per cent. wool. The proportion of Terylene makes them less apt to wrinkle, keeps the shape and gives greater strength, while there is still sufficient wool to keep the smooth worsted look. For girls washable pleated skirts are being made from mixtures of Ardin and cotton.

ONE lot of fabrics that has been bought by most couturiers in London and Paris, and also by the big wholesalers, is a blend of camel hair and wool, launched by Otterburn. Each of the cloths is in three weights, for coats, suits and dresses, and there are twelve patterns, mostly in compact diagonal or basket weaves, though the best seller of the whole set is the traditional hopsack weave, in which the camel in its natural warm, familiar colour is mixed with black, grey or navy blue. All the weaves are made in a series of dark colours with the natural camel and are popular as they offer a change from tweed, while still coming into the tweed category.

A 100-per-cent. camel cloth in a raised-rib tweed weave is an interesting alternative to the traditional brushed camel coating. Another coating, a hopsack, appears to be woven diagonally, though in fact it is woven straight. A two-face coating, smooth on one side



A swim and sun suit made to measure. It is in nylon ottoman and fitted with pants, while the bodice is lightly boned and has straps that tie like a halter (Rigby and Peller)

(Right) A sun suit made of green and white spot cotton with a scalloped skirt and a bodice of becoming shape. Underneath are matching pants (Elizabeth Arden)

and basket-patterned on the other, is a cloth capable of many neat decorative effects

There is to be a revival of checks. Quiet colours are woven together, eight at a time to make a broken, over-check pattern. Coatings are frequently bold, with outsize dog-tooth checks in three or four gay colours, or large blocks woven in a darned pattern of one colour separated by half-inch stripes of another colour in a plain weave. Shetland crimps are piece darned, so that the colours can be pleasantly mottled by the different yarns.

For the first time for several seasons topcoats have changed not only their cloth but their outlines. The straight and narrow ones remain, but there are also full backs, with pleats or gores swinging out from a shoulder yoke, or fuller gores rippling from a circular yoke that is cut in one with a small collar. The coat with an easy fit to the waist is also back, often with a handsome fur collar. It is usually made of sleek-looking cloth or tweed, as are the high-waisted coats with the back pleats. Mohair coats or mixtures of mohair and wool are frequently straight. The camel and wool mixtures look particularly smart among the high-waisted group and can be worn equally well in town and country.

Fringed cravats tie across the front on many of the tweed coats; sometimes there is no collar at the back. Wide shawl collars are also in evidence among the town-like tweeds. Sleek narrow cravats of flat fur are tucked into the V-necklines of velours coats. Delphinium blues in all the various tones make some of the most becoming coats, gay on a winter's day and a strong enough blue to be worn with black. Aquascutum have a charming one that fastens at the throat by a narrow, semi-circular buttoned strap with gentle gathers below. This is the type of topcoat that can be worn almost all through the year. The mohair coat of Estrava in a vivid geranium pink would be a splendid holiday coat with its lightness and gaiety. It is collarless and beltless, falling straight from the throat to the narrow hem. Narrow coats in basket-patterned tweed at Dereta are warmly lined with wool jersey. Jaeger show a hip-length jacket lined with white nylon fur and make it with the squared neckline instead of the V, so that it has a different look from a reefer, though fulfilling the same rôle.

At the National Fur Company they have invented a new process for rendering lamb supple and marking it so that it looks like ocelot. Coats made from this processed lamb are inexpensive and hard wearing, and look very smart in country or town. This firm also make cravats, small fur capes, boleros and stoles from white musquash and mink marmot, in the £20-£40 price range, worked beautifully in the same way as mink. Chinese lamb is dyed in mellow colours, and tailored into jackets that take the same shape as a woollen. This again is a comparatively inexpensive fur and becoming with its silky surface.

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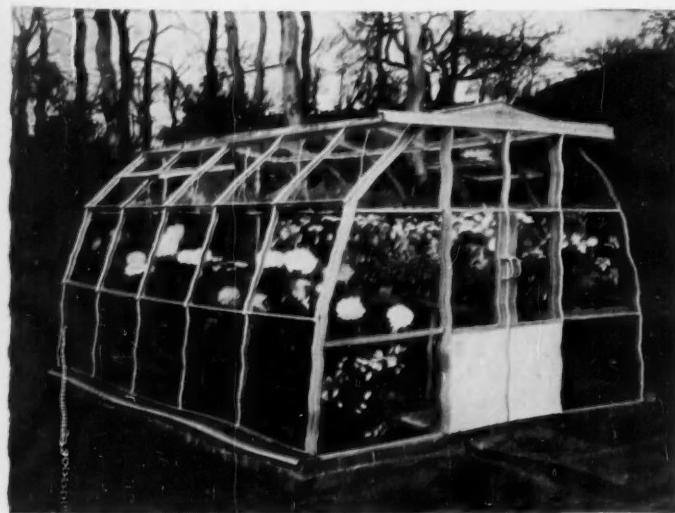
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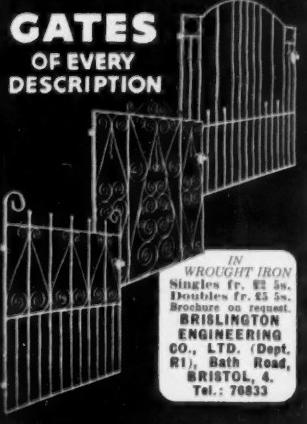
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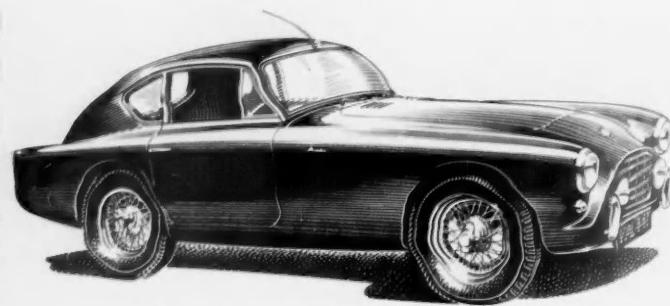
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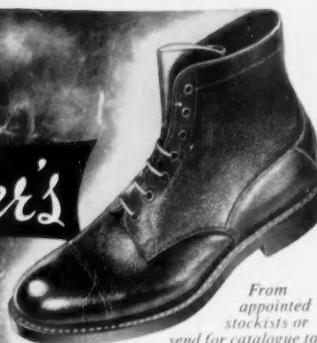
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classified properties

CONTINUED FROM SUPPLEMENT 24

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